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Organization of African Unity Holds Summit in Cairo

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For reportage on the 29th summit of Organization of African Unity heads of state, which opened in Cairo on 28 June, please see the Inter-African Affairs section of the 29 June Sub-Saharan Africa DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues. For reportage on the conference of OAU foreign ministers which preceded the summit, please see the 22-29 June issues of the same volume.

Arab-Israeli Talks

Draft Declaration Sent to Palestinians, Israelis

TA2806135993 Jerusalem. AL-MANAR in Arabic 28 Jun 93 pp 1, 11

[Text] After studying the Israeli and Palestinian responses, the U.S. Administration recently finished drafting the Palestinian-Israeli declaration of principles. The drafting was supervised by a U.S. State Department team of Middle East experts, headed by Secretary Warren Christopher.

The U.S. draft has been presented to the Israeli and Palestinian delegations, who relayed it to Tel Aviv and Tunis. The responses have not reached Washington yet, because the Palestinian leadership has requested more time to discuss the draft, and Tel Aviv has informed the United States that it will give its response to the U.S. official who is to arrive on a shuttle tour of the region.

Diplomatic sources have forwarded to AL-MANAR the draft declaration of principles and have said that Washington will not modify it. The draft's main points are as follows:

—The status of Jerusalem will be determined five years after the implementation of self-rule. This will not prevent discussion of this status upon implementation of self-rule.

—The final status of the settlements will be discussed after the first year of self-rule.

—Joint economic projects will be set up to create economic cooperation between the two sides. There is no objection to expanding the base of this cooperation to include neighboring states.

—Security arrangements will be implemented with the start of self-rule.

—Army forces will be phased out from densely populated areas.

—Self-rule will be implemented immediately in accordance with a chronological and regional sequence.

Since the Palestinian negotiating delegation has been charged with a specific task and does not have the right to make decisions, the U.S. draft was sent to Tunis where the Palestinian leadership's headquarters is located. Political circles believe that by this means, the PLO wanted to reaffirm to Washington that they are the decisionmakers. The PLO is now studying the U.S. draft.

Discussions at 28 Jun Talks Session Summarized

TA2806202393 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 2000 GMT 28 Jun 93

[Text] The Israeli and Arab delegations have concluded today's talks in Washington. Our correspondent in Washington Razi Barqay reports that the U.S. document, which is titled The Proposed Israeli-Palestinian Document of Principles, was not presented to the negotiators today and is expected to be submitted tomorrow or the day after.

Fierce remarks were exchanged at the meeting with the Lebanese delegation. Chief Israeli delegate Uri Lubrani said at the beginning of the session that the Katyushas fired this morning prove that the Lebanese Army is incapable of preventing attacks from Israel's north, reinforcing Israel's argument that the security zone is necessary.

Lubrani urged Lebanon to try to comply with the UN Security Council resolution that calls for the evacuation of all alien forces, including the Syrians, from Lebanon. The chief Lebanese negotiator replied that the Syrian presence in his country was in compliance with the Lebanese Government's free and sovereign will.

The Palestinians again raised the issue of Jerusalem, contending that the talks would make no progress unless the debates on the interim arrangements included East Jerusalem. The Palestinian representatives reacted angrily to Prime Minister Rabin's declarations that Jerusalem is the eternal capital of Jerusalem.

In the discussion with the Syrians, there was a certain Syrian readiness to meet Israel halfway in reciprocal demilitarization arrangements after peace is established. Nevertheless, the Syrians again demanded full withdrawal from the Golan as a precondition for progress in the negotiations.

The delegations will resume the discussions tomorrow.

Israeli Delegation Head on Stalemate With Lebanon

TA2906055393 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 0405 GMT 29 Jun 93

[Text] In the wake of the Katyusha attack in the north, yesterday's round of talks between the Israeli and Lebanese delegations in Washington was extremely tense. The issues of the Katyushas and Hizballah were raised by the Israelis. Following yesterday's talks, our correspondent Razi Barqay spoke with Uri Lubrani, the chief Israeli negotiator.

[Begin recording] [Barqay] Uri Lubrani, when you explain the importance of the security zone to the Lebanese delegation, particularly in light of the Katyusha attacks, what do they say to you?

[Lubrani] They claim that the Lebanese Army can provide better security than that provided by the present deployment, which includes the security zone and the IDF [Israel Defense Forces] backed SLA [South Lebanese Army]. Naturally we do not accept this and do not think this is viable. I think this is a political claim which has no basis in reality. We are very familiar with the capabilities of the Lebanese Army. Although we are aware that the Lebanese Army has become stronger over the past few years, it is still far from being good enough for us to trust with providing the appropriate security.

[Barqay] Have you asked the head of the Lebanese delegation to get rid of Hizballah, or do you assume from experience that this request is unrealistic, so you refrain from raising the issue.

[Lubrani] We indeed raised this issue. Today we received the very strange answer that Hizballah is not merely the name of a Lebanese organization, it is also the name used by purely Iranian organizations that have nothing to do with Lebanon. We have yet to deal with this issue. We will explain to them exactly what we think about Hizballah.

[Barqay] We are already in the midst of the 10th round, and the Lebanese delegation continues to demand our withdrawal from the security zone. The Israeli answer is: What about the Syrian occupation force?

[Lubrani] To all appearances, Lebanon is fettered to the position stipulated by Resolution 425 because of Syria. As long as the Syrians dictate the Lebanese position there will be no progress. I believe this is a correct assessment. There is no doubt that the key to any meaningful progress on the Lebanese track lies in Damascus.

[Barqay] Is there anything new in the MIA issue?

[Lubrani] Unfortunately I have nothing new to report.

[Barqay] Do you think that the Lebanese have information, or are they simply ignorant of the situation?

[Lubrani] I cannot give you an unequivocal answer on this issue. I am afraid that they know little, if anything. I think that we are dealing here with Iran rather than with Lebanon. Iran is the party who controls Ron Arad, and of the bodies of the soldiers Fink and Alshekh. The issue of Baumel, Katz, and Feldman is completely different. It has nothing to do with Lebanon, but with Syria and the Palestinians. This track will not deal with this issue. [end recording]

Lebanese Delegate Accuses Israelis of Sidetracking

NC2906095493 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 0430 GMT 29 Jun 93

[Text] The Israeli delegation to the peace negotiations with Lebanon in Washington has attempted to sidetrack them by speaking about the Syrian presence in Lebanon in addition to leveling accusations against the Lebanese Government and Army. Head of the Israeli delegation Uri Lubrani tried to focus on what he called security issues.

Head of the Lebanese delegation Ambassador Suhayl Shammas challenged Lubrani and said: The first point I would like to comment on concerns the Katyushas that were fired and what the head of the Israeli delegation and his spokesman in the Arabic language have failed to mention, namely that these rockets were not fired from an area under the Lebanese Army control or from where the Lebanese Army is deployed. Such disregard for the facts has a specific purpose and you yourselves can infer the reasons for this disregard.

He added: The second point that I would like to raise is that the head of the Israeli delegation has decided to raise publicly in front of the media the issues we discussed in camera today. He stated, and I heard him saying it, that there were no discussions of substantive issues. He raised the issue of Syria's occupation of Lebanon. Before we suspended the negotiations last Thursday [24 June], the head of the Israeli delegation stated—and a copy of this statement proves my point—that he would return on Monday to discuss the Lebanese working paper. It was his determination and decision to do so and this caused the argument.

Shammas went on to say: There is another observation that is extremely important. It is that the head of the Israeli delegation and his team have given themselves rights they do not have. He feels satisfied when he describes the Syrian presence in Lebanon as occupation and was greatly annoyed when the Lebanese delegation described inside and particularly outside the negotiating rooms the situation prevailing in south Lebanon as one of occupation. Shammas said: The prevailing current situation in Lebanon is one of peace and this has certainly been achieved through the determination of the Lebanese people and also through Syria's contribution to Lebanon. But Lubrani claimed that he has reasons for raising this issue.

The head of the Lebanese delegation added: If the Israeli delegation, and through it the Israeli Government, are eager to see Lebanon free and strong and if they feel there is a need for a Syrian redeployment or withdrawal and then they make this direct link, then why don't they take the initiative and get out of Lebanon instead of desecrating our territories with their occupation? Then let us see what developments take place thereafter.

Shammas stressed that Lebanon will continue to talk regardless of the difficulties that Israel tries to put up. He said: No one can intimidate us to make us change our firm stance and our government's instructions and policies. We are determined to continue with this course. Whether the Israeli delegation's spokesman in the Arabic language likes it or not, we are a delegation that enjoys the confidence of the Lebanese people as well as that of our government and our official and unofficial leaderships. We are here to take care of what we believe to be in Lebanon's very best interest and this is defined by the Lebanese and no one else regardless of whatever the Israeli delegation says. The Israelis claim to have good intentions for a free and sovereign Lebanon. Let them then translate these words into steps.

[In a similar report from its correspondent in Washington Nuhad al-Hayik, Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic at 0515 GMT on 29 June adds: "Shammas said that the Israelis have no right to discuss the issue of the Syrian presence in Lebanon, as only the Lebanese and Syrian Governments can discuss the issue of the continuing Syrian presence in Lebanon. Shammas added: One has to be blind not to see the Syrians' contributions of the past two or three years to the Lebanese legitimate authorities to help them impose their authority over Lebanese territories. The peace prevailing now is the result the Lebanese people's determination and is also the result of Syrian help. We have nothing to hide." The head of the Lebanese delegation then said that he "gave the appropriate answers when the Israelis raised the issue of Hizballah," stressing that "we will not give any excuses as long as the Israeli occupation of Lebanon continues."]

Syria's al-'Allaf: No Progress in Negotiations

JN2906095493 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 0415 GMT 29 Jun 93

[Text] Washington—Muwaffaq al-'Allaf, head of the Syrian Arab delegation to the peace talks, has said that the first meeting of the third week of this round, the seventh since the beginning of the round, was the same as, if not worse than, the meetings of the first two weeks of this round.

In a statement following the meeting, he said the continued Israeli refusal to clearly commit itself to full withdrawal prevented discussion of any pending issues.

He added: The Israeli side raised issues relating to future prospects. We tried to discuss these issues through their connection to the basic commitment to full withdrawal. However, the Israeli side is still not ready to allow the negotiations to make progress.

He said that at a time when it insists on all kinds of demands and preconditions regarding peace and security, the Israeli side does not show a willingness to carry out its obligations in accordance with Resolution 242 regarding full withdrawal.

Al-'Allaf added that the impression that the Israeli side does not have a mandate has been substantiated. The only mandate the Israeli side has is to insist on preconditions and other issues that are not directly linked to the peace process or Resolution 242.

Al-'Allaf denied a statement by Itamar Rabinovitch, head of the Israeli delegation, that the Syrian delegation imposes preconditions by demanding full withdrawal.

Al-'Allaf added: If the Israelis think that our insistence on full withdrawal—a question given first priority by Resolution 242—is a precondition, then so be it. We think it is a positive attitude. It is not possible to find any mention in that resolution of what the Israeli side is insisting on.

Al-'Allaf said it is not possible to conceive that full peace can be established without full Israeli withdrawal, because such peace would legitimize aggression and occupation of Arab territories, and, therefore, it cannot be established.

Asked whether there is a need to amend the terms of reference of the peace process, al-'Allaf said: I do not think the problems lies in the terms of reference. The problem is that the Israeli side does not have a political will and is not willing to implement what was supposedly accepted by it when it joined the peace process.

The peace talks resumed in Washington yesterday, with the beginning of the third and final week of the current 10th round, which began on 15 June and will end on 1 July.

'Abd-al-Shafi Comments on Palestinian 'Disarray'

TA2806162693 Jerusalem AL-FAJR in English 28 Jun 93 p 16

[Interview with Dr. Haydar 'Abd-al-Shafi, head of the Palestinian negotiating delegation, by Ghassan Bisharah in Washington prior to 'Abd-al-Shafi's eye operation on 22 June]

[Text] [Bisharah] How are things proceeding in this round?

['Abd-al-Shafi] There isn't anything exciting to tell you. A dialogue is going on with the Americans. The objective is to try to reach a declaration of agreement on principles. On our part, we want such a declaration to be comprehensive and to address all the issues, especially the basic issues, as we see them, such as the question of Jerusalem, territorial questions in general, the problem of settlements, the matter of human rights and respect for the Geneva protocols.

So in principle, we are not against a declaration or an agreement of principles, but we want it to be comprehensive and not partial. This is what has been going on with the Americans. So far, there has been no agreement on this yet.

[Bisharah] What exactly is being discussed? Is there a paper—American, Israeli or Palestinian—being discussed?

['Abd-al-Shafi] So far it is simply a discussion and an exchange of views. There are no papers. Maybe the Americans are about to produce a paper, but thus far, no papers have been presented.

[Bisharah] Are you saying that no progress has been made with the Israelis so far?

['Abd-al-Shafi] It is our impression that the Americans are talking for the Israelis. Or maybe the Israelis are negotiating with us by proxy. They don't admit it, of course, but this is our feeling.

[Bisharah] Have there been any meetings at all between the Israelis and the Palestinians since this round started?

['Abd-al-Shafi] There were meetings—I was not present—but what I am told is that the Israelis have lost interest and that they are leaving the stage for the Americans to (carry on). Today, in fact, there is going to be a meeting which I am not going to attend. But the Israelis probably have something new.

[Bisharah] Why aren't you going to attend today's meeting?

['Abd-al-Shafi] I am going to have a medical operation.

[Bisharah] U.S. policy on Jerusalem is well-known. Are the U.S. officials promoting their own policy for the city now?

['Abd-al-Shafi] I think the Americans want to evade mentioning Jerusalem in the declaration of principles. They know that we don't accept that. But we shall see in the meetings.

We are serious about refusing to participate in any partial declaration of principles.

[Bisharah] Are the Israelis continuing to build settlements in the territories?

['Abd-al-Shafi] As far as we know, the Israelis are continuing to do so, and they have not changed their attitude. They will continue to establish more settlements. They simply refuse to discuss the settlement issue.

[Bisharah] Are the Americans still insisting on receiving information about settlement activity?

['Abd-al-Shafi] I read recently that the Americans are asking the Israelis to give them that information. What are the Americans going to do about this? I don't think that they are going to strongly interfere by stopping the settlement process. But I think they are going to deduct some (money) from the amount granted to Israel, which it spent on settlements last year. But that is not satisfactory to us.

[Bisharah] How do you intend to deal with the situation considering that the settlements are a major issue for the Palestinians?

['Abd-al-Shafi] If there is no progress (on this issue), the peace process will come under direct threat of failure because of this situation. Everybody realizes this.

[Bisharah] What do the Americans say about the human rights issue and about the closure of the territories?

['Abd-al-Shafi] The Americans say that they are against these violations and that they are talking to the Israelis continuously about them. But they are not taking the necessary steps which would force Israel to comply.

We have been talking about the blockade of Jerusalem, and they say that they have contacted the Israelis several times. But nothing has changed. This sounds like bad news to me and to us all.

You know about my position. I was thinking that we should call for a suspension of the talks until things are corrected.

[Bisharah] Why aren't the talks suspended?

['Abd-al-Shafi] I think it is because we are one part of the process and the Arab parties another. We are bound to keep a unified position with the Arabs. That creates a situation whereby we do not have freedom of movement.

The decision to suspend our participation in these talks is not mine. It is in the hands of our political leadership, and they have to coordinate with the Arab parties.

The second matter is that so far, we do not have a credible alternative to the negotiating process. I hope that this call for a dialogue among the Palestinians will enable us to reach a unified resolution, which would be the answer and would make it possible for us to take the necessary steps. Then, I hope, we would be able to provide an alternative (to the peace talks).

[Bisharah] You said the Palestinians do not have a credible alternative, but that they should find one. What has happened to the search?

['Abd-al-Shafi] I am sorry to say that so far what I said has not been heeded. I said we needed to put the Palestinian house in order, so that we would be able to meet whatever difficult resolutions need to be made. But so far, the Palestinian house remains in disarray, and that is why we feel captive to this process.

[Bisharah] At the end of the ninth round, you said you would ask the PLO leaders to call for a meeting of either the Palestine National Council or the Palestine Central Council. What happened to that?

['Abd-al-Shafi] We did ask for such a meeting while in Amman, and I think it is agreed that Abu 'Ammar (Yasir 'Arafat), in coordination with the presidency of the National Council, will call for this conference or meeting.

To date, I don't know whether they have done this, but I am going to inquire and see if any steps have been taken with regard to this. I think I read an item today in the news that refers to this specific issue, in particular that (PLO leaders) Tayseer Quba'a, Abu Walid and Yasir 'Arafat are contemplating such a meeting.

[Bisharah] There are those who are saying that you are somewhat of a hard-liner. How would you respond to that?

['Abd-al-Shafi] First of all, I don't want to distinguish myself from the rest of the delegation. We have real unity within the negotiating delegation; we all have the same position. Maybe sometimes we have a difference in how we interpret things, but in reality, we are united about our views and objectives.

It is too early to speak about this (differing views). But as things proceed, it would certainly become more and more critical as to where we stand and what we should do. So now we are in a very sensitive stage, with the Americans stepping in and trying to impose things on us. This will be a test and determine whether we will remain united or whether we crack.

My hope is that we will remain united and that we keep a united position in the face of whatever is presented or discussed. In principal, we are now in agreement, not refusing the declaration of principles—only that it should be comprehensive.

The Americans say, "If it cannot be comprehensive, let us make it partial." They are now pressing for this, but we should continue to insist that any such declaration be comprehensive. What the Americans want now is to leave the impression around the world that the process is going on and everything is OK. But the time factor is against us.

[Bisharah] So we can say that you are not trying to break the talks altogether, but you are trying to push for a clear Palestinian perspective and to force the Americans and the Israelis to either accept it and go on, or reject it and say so.

['Abd-al-Shafi] Indeed, it is so. Very much so, in fact. I do not want to leave any ambiguity whatsoever. Either the Americans will come out clearly in support of our position as we see it with respect to Jerusalem, settlements, human rights, or they won't. This process cannot continue, with the Americans relegating these important issues to the rear. I think this round should be crucial.

[Bisharah] You went to London recently, and now you will undergo an operation. Some people say that this is an indication that you are no longer enthusiastic about the process and that you are trying to convey a political message. How would you respond to this?

['Abd-al-Shafi] My position with regard to the negotiations is very well- known. I have expressed my disinterest in them since the end of the eighth round, but I participated in the ninth round. Now I am here for the 10th round, not because I am convinced that there is something that is going to come out of this—my feeling is that nothing is going to come out—but out of deference to the leadership and their resolutions. I know the obstacles that exist and that there are Arab partners involved and that we need to coordinate with them.

But there is another matter. As long as the Palestinians continue to participate in the negotiating process, I feel that I am under pressure from our constituency to come here, even though I am not convinced (about the process). Rather they want me to be here.

[Bisharah] How was your visit to London?

['Abd-al-Shafi] It was satisfactory. I had commitments to speak there about the peace process and also to attend an annual convention, which I did. Then I met with the press, with the Council of Arab Ambassadors and with Minister (of State, Foreign and Commonwealth Office) Douglas Hogg. The meeting with Hogg was good and useful. I raised the question of a European role in the issue of the Middle East, not necessarily undercutting the American role, but in cooperation with it. I think he listened carefully to what I said.

[Bisharah] Do you think the Europeans are playing the role which they could be playing?

['Abd-al-Shafi] I have a feeling that they are getting worried about how things are going, and I won't be surprised if they begin talking with the Americans in the near future about cooperation and a role of their own in the talks.

Inter-Arab Affairs

Arab League Chief: Countries Agree on Reconciliation

JN2606113493 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 26 Jun 93 pp 1, 28

[By Nabil Ghazzawi]

[Text] Arab League Secretary General Dr. 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid said that his visit to Jordan depends on the reaction of the Arab countries to the initiative he presented last March to the Arab leaders and foreign ministers. The initiative deals with tackling the current Arab situation, restoring Arab solidarity, clearing the atmosphere in the Arab world, and achieving pan-Arab security. 'Abd-al-Majid added: In light of this, the dimensions of his coming tour of the Arab countries, including Jordan, will be defined. He said: So far, 10 Arab countries have agreed on achieving reconciliation.

Answering a question in a telephone interview conducted by AL-DUSTUR, the Arab League secretary general expressed belief that the United States is serious in its efforts to resolve the Arab-Israeli conflict. He added that U.S. seriousness in resolving this conflict stems from its fundamental and major interests in the

Middle East. He said that Washington wants to maintain these interests and turn the Middle East into a secure and stable region in the new world order.

Dr. 'Abd-al-Majid praised the skills of the Palestinian negotiators in overcoming all obstacles facing them in their endeavor to maintain the objective for which they entered the talks. He noted that ultimately these talks should bring about a just, lasting, and comprehensive peace in the region.

Palestinian Affairs

'Arafat: U.S. Aggression Against Iraq Unjustified

JN2806164293 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1625 GMT 28 Jun 93

[Text] Cairo, 28 Jun (INA)—Yasir 'Arafat, president of the state of Palestine, has stressed that the American aggression against the Iraqi people is an aggressive act that is absolutely unjustified. In a statement to an INA correspondent in Cairo, 'Arafat said that threatening the life of civilians and attacking Baghdad with missiles are a serious precedent and clear violation of international charters and norms.

'Arafat added that using force in the hideous way that Baghdad was hit recently and in the past reiterates the aggressive policy of the United States against Iraq and independent nations.

Yasir 'Arafat expressed the Palestinian people's solidarity with the Iraqi people who are firmly confronting all conspiracies against their existence and future.

PLO's 'Abd-Rabbuh Calls U.S. Attack Provocative

NC2806194393 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1915 GMT 28 Jun 93

[Text] In a first Palestinian reaction to the U.S. missile attack, 'Abd-Rabbuh, head of the PLO information department, denounced the attack, describing it as a provocative act against all Arab nations.

Commentary: Attack Symptomatic of Double Standard

PM2806152693 London AL-QUDS AL-'ARABI in Arabic 28 Jun 93 p 1

[Commentary by 'Abd-al-Bari 'Atwan: "Cheap U.S. Victories"]

[Text] It has become useless and boring to use logic and scientific analysis methods to discuss and explain the present U.S. "rabies" case, which is aimed at—and indeed specializes in—trying to humiliate anything that is Arab and twist facts and international laws to give itself a civilized image.

Regrettably, U.S. presidents have started to lead the world with the logic of "bullies" and their muscles and to look for cheap victories here and there whenever their popularity inside their country begins to decline.

There is no logical or moral explanation for President Bill Clinton's recent decision to attack Iraq and bombard its capital with missiles, except perhaps the bankruptcy of U.S. foreign policy and its inability to achieve success through the normal means.

If we examine the "excuse" for retaliating against the attempt to assassinate President George Bush during his visit to Kuwait, that is the excuse given to justify the raid, it is easy to see that it is superficial, lacks convincing elements, and does not provide even a fig leaf for the recent U.S. aggression. This is because the question is not to do with whether or not Iraq was officially involved in this attempt, but, rather, with the existence of U.S. hatred for anything that is Arab and oppression of anything that is Muslim.

If the missile attack was in retaliation to the alleged assassination attempt, it would have been more proper for President Clinton to wait a few days until the Kuwaiti "judiciary" has its say and pronounces its verdicts on the suspects, since the trials are still continuing. However, this does not mean that we accept that the trials and their decisions are impartial. Amnesty International's files are full of evidence condemning Kuwait, its courts, and its repressive police regime.

The bitter truth that many people pretend not to see is summed up in the failure of all U.S. and non-U.S. attempts to topple the Iraqi regime, because President Saddam Husayn's remaining in power is an indication of the continuing Iraqi defiance and the failure of the second Gulf war to achieve its most important aim.

What is certain is that such desperate show strikes will not weaken Saddam, nor will they strengthen President Clinton. In fact, they could be completely counterproductive. Even the closest U.S. allies have condemned them, describing them as unjustified.

The Arab citizen wonders why the United States is flexing its muscles against Iraq only, while it remains immobile in other places in which honor and international laws are being violated, like Bosnia.

As soon as that citizen reads that Clinton consulted with Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin before launching this strike against Baghdad, he will spontaneously stand by Iraq and its people and their steadfastness. Israel can only stand in the trench hostile to this nation and can never support any action that brings good for it.

Shelling the headquarters of Iraqi intelligence is an insignificant action from a president who lacks political maturity, so it will change nothing in reality. Iraq stood fast in the face of 100,000 tonnes of bombs and explosives and achieved the rebuilding miracle with the hands of its sons. And its enemies—let alone its friends—have

admired it for that. But it could prove difficult for Clinton to remedy the devastating effects on his country and people in the Arab region as a result of these reckless policies and blatant double standards in the implementation of international resolutions.

Strike Called Example of U.S. 'Muscle Flexing'

TA2806194593 Jerusalem AL-NAHAR in Arabic 28 Jun 93 pp 1, 7

[Editorial: "Legitimacy in Two Standards"]

[Text] The message sent by U.S. President Clinton to the Iraqi people by striking Baghdad with cruise missiles was not in response to the accusation that the Iraqi regime had plotted to assassinate former U.S. President George Bush during his Kuwait visit in April. There was something more important than this. This attack on Baghdad was muscle flexing by the U.S. Administration and an attempt to boost President Clinton's popularity, which had sunk to a new low due to the weakness of his leadership and vacillation in making decisive decisions, especially with regard to foreign policy.

The Americans did not suffice with what their hands, stained with the Iraqi people's blood, did when they destroyed Iraq in a manner unprecedented in the wars of the old or new world, as if their aim was to push back the Iraqi people to the Stone Age. We have repeatedly stated that Iraq committed a grave mistake by occupying Kuwait. The mistake became graver when Iraq refused to withdraw. The gravest mistake was that the Iraqi regime did not assess the results of, nor read, international developments correctly. What causes pain and bitterness among the Arab masses is that Arabs from every variety welcome and applaud each blow dealt by U.S. legitimacy and "its justice" to Iraq. Arab and Islamic anger manifests itself more because of the double standards. Barbarous methods are used against Iraq under the pretext of not adhering to international legitimacy and plotting against the former U.S. president. At the same time the Serbs violate all international norms and charters by implementing the policy of ethnic cleansing against the Muslim Bosnian people, while Washington and the European states keep silent and do not lift a finger. Where were the cruise missiles to stop the massacre against Muslims?

As for those gloating and scared Arabs who have been pleased with the renewed strike against Iraq, they should think long about the consequences of this U.S. policy that dominates international legitimacy and the new world order. They deal with us using two types of logic and standard. Today it is Iraq's turn, but tomorrow it will be the turn of other Arab countries if the situation of the Arabs remains as it is at present, fragmented and divided. Washington will decide tomorrow which Arab regime should stay and which must go. Is it not the duty of those Arabs who in the past supported Kuwait's "liberation" and Iraq's destruction to ask the U.S. Administration: For how long will this collective punishment—from starvation to a cruel blockade—against the Iraqi people continue? Whenever international legitimacy deems fit to flex its muscles according to its own special calculations, it violates Iraq's sovereignty and punishes it with utmost cruelty.

Why is Iraqi power considered against peace and a danger to the international community and its new order? Why was Iraq's occupation of Kuwait considered a violation of international legitimacy, while the Serbs' occupation of Bosnian territory is not a danger to peace and does not undermine international legitimacy? And what about another, closer occupation that has lasted more than 26 years and is not considered a danger to peace? What kind of legitimacy is this, and what kind of feeble people are we who see in Iraq a criminal aggressor and close our eyes to what this legitimacy does in other parts of the world?

Factions Rally, Stress Importance of Jerusalem

JN2806155293 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 0415 GMT 28 Jun 93

[Text] Damascus—Under the patronage of the al-Yarmuk Branch Command of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, the 10 Palestinian factions [opposed to Palestinian participation in the peace talks] last night held a rally on the anniversary of Holy Jerusalem's annexation to the Zionist entity. The rally was held at the al-Nujum Movie Theater in the al-Yarmuk refugee camp.

The rally was attended by comrade Muhammad Khalifah, member of the Arab National Command; Safwan Qudsi, secretary general of the Arab Socialist Union Party and member of the Central Command of the National Progressive Front; and members of the Ba'th Party Palestinian Command.

Safwan Qudsi delivered a speech in which he noted holy Jerusalem's religious, historical, cultural, and geographic status. He hailed Syria's firm, principled positions under leader Hafiz al- Asad in support of the Palestinian people and their legitimate cause to regain their rights.

Hajj Hasan Dahraj, member of Lebanon's Hizballah Political Bureau, also delivered a speech on behalf of the Lebanese nationalist Islamic movement in which he noted Muslim belief in holy Jerusalem as one of the most sacred places for more than 1 billion Muslims in the world. He stressed the need for a united position among the 10 factions to shoulder the great tasks facing them in this difficult stage with its critical requirements, and to achieve the necessary level to face the threats through the unity of ranks and the jihad's role at the level of the intifadah.

Abu-Nidal al-Ashqar, secretary of the Palestine Liberation Movement's Central Committee [title as heard], delivered the speech of the 10 factions in which he stressed the Palestinian people's insistence on restoring their legitimate and inalienable rights in setting up their

independent state on their national soil in Palestine, the capital of which is Jerusalem.

He said: The most serious thing that is taking place in the multilateral talks is starting normalization before reaching results or progress in the bilateral talks. He added: We are not alone in the arena; we should not feel desperate. Syria and our leader, comrade struggler Hafiz al-Asad, are with us—al-Asad, who preserves pan-Arab rights and holds the flag of struggle with the Palestinian and the Arab nation to restore their rights and confront the dangers and challenges that they face.

Peace Efforts Said Met With 'Israeli Arrogance'

TA2806164593 Jerusalem AL-FAJR in English 28 Jun 93 p 4

[Editorial: "Basic Principles First"]

[Text] We wish we could really share U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher's optimism that some things will be achieved in the Arab-Israeli negotiations in the coming few days. Facts on the ground and statements and positions by Israeli and American officials rule out the possibility of securing such progress.

It is significant that Arab efforts in general—and Palestinian efforts in particular—to assert a willingness to achieve a comprehensive peace have been met with increasing Israeli arrogance. The Israelis are adamantly sticking to the extremist views voiced often during the past years of the occupation—views which cannot be considered by any means as a fit basis to establish peace in our region. This position is also coupled with an American retreat from the assurances given to the Palestinians on the eve of the Madrid conference and a heightened adoption by the Americans of the Israeli views regarding the conflict in the Middle East.

This was made clear last week. Statements made by Israeli Premier Yitzhaq Rabin and Deputy Foreign Minister Yosi Beilin, that for the Israelis the issue of Jerusalem is nonnegotiable and that the Palestinian insistence on the issue may undermine the negotiations, are but one aspect of the dilemma facing the talks. Moreover, this Israeli position was put into practice when strict measures were taken three months ago to restrict the access of the Palestinian public to the Holy City.

Instead of respecting the international resolutions pertaining to Jerusalem, Israel has been trying to convince the Palestinians to postpone tackling the issue until the second stage of negotiations. If Israel succeeds in this scheme, this will buy time for the Israeli authorities to finish their final plans which are aimed at severing Jerusalem from the rest of the occupied territories.

The Palestinian delegation is demanding that an agreement on basic principles be reached between the two parties. We believe this is a just demand. How can the Palestinians accept postponing the discussion on Jerusalem and the applicability of Resolutions 242 and 338 until a later stage, when the Israeli leaders have declared beyond any doubt that they will not cede their "sovereignty" over occupied Arab Jerusalem?

It is for a similar reason that the Palestinians cannot accept the Israeli proposal to take responsibility for certain departments currently run by the military authorities before an agreement on the geographical mandate is reached and before ascertaining that the principle of land for peace will be upheld by the Israelis.

Any Palestinian acceptance of the Israeli proposals will only destroy the Palestinians' aspirations for real peace and freedom and will end with an eternal Israeli colonization of the area.

Al-Rantisi Appeals for Evacuation of Ill Deportees

NC2506125593 Paris AFP in English 1133 GMT 25 Jun 93

[Text] Marj al-Zuhur, Lebanon, June 25 (AFP) - The spokesman for 396 Palestinians exiled in south Lebanon appealed on Friday [25 June] for the evacuation of 60 deportees who he said are ill and need proper medical care.

'Abd-al-'Aziz al-Rantisi asked the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) to evacuate the group, including 10 who are seriously ill, from the Marj al-Zuhur tent camp between Israeli and Lebanese army lines.

Israel expelled 415 Palestinians to Lebanon on December 17 after it linked them to militant Muslim groups that killed a border guard and soldiers.

The ICRC has since arranged for the return to the Israeli-occupied territories of 19 deportees who were sick or expelled in error. One mentally disturbed man whom Israel has allowed to return is still awaiting evacuation.

Israel has also offered to take back 126 deportees immediately and the rest by the end of year, but the deportees have refused saying Israel should return all of them at once in line with a U.N. resolution adopted on December 18.

Delegation Confers With Omani Foreign Minister

LD2806181693 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1702 GMT 28 Jun 93

[Excerpts] Brothers Mahmud Darwish, PLO Executive Committee member, and Hakam Balaoui, Fatah Movement Central Committee member, this morning met brother Yusif Bin- Alawi, minister of state for foreign affairs in the fraternal Sultanate of Oman, in a lengthy meeting lasting about two hours and which was attended by senior officials of the Omani Foreign Ministry.

The latest developments on the Arab and Palestinian scene were discussed, with special focus on the development of the intifadah, the situation in the occupied Palestinian territories, the deteriorating conditions of

the Palestinian people due to the Israeli practices, and the need to provide support to the sons of our people. [passage omitted]

The meeting also reviewed the fraternal Palestinian-Omani relations and the firm determination to develop them in all spheres in order to serve the aspirations of the two fraternal peoples and the interest of joint Arab action.

Arab Regimes Accused of Tightening Siege on PLO

TA2806170593 Jerusalem AL-USBU' AL-JADID in Arabic 27 Jun 93 p 2

[Untitled editorial]

[Text] Some Arab regimes are trying to tighten the political and financial siege on the PLO to pressure the organization and the Palestinian people into making concessions at the peace talks.

Those Arabs, however, should know that by doing so they are making the Palestinians more persistent on their legitimate national rights.

Pursuing a financial siege against the Palestinian people and their organization is collective punishment aimed against the entire Palestinian people. This can in no way undermine their resolve nor force them to their knees, rather it will make them more determined to defy injustice and rebel against oppressors.

Report Analyzes Power Struggle Within Fatah

JN2606184893 Amman SHIHAN in Arabic 26 Jun 93 p 14

[By the political editor]

[Text] A good many question marks have hung over the future of the PLO in Fatah and in the Palestinian community at large since Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat survived a plane crash in the Libyan desert in April 1992. It was natural that such questions have been raised about a man who wields considerable power, holds many secrets about the Palestinian issue, and occupies all the sensitive and key posts in the Palestinian establishment and Fatah. Observers paint quite a gloomy picture of a post-'Arafat era, not so much due to his weight as a Palestinian leader, but instead to the weighty challenges his departure would leave for whoever succeeds him, the distribution of the numerous positions he holds, and the secrets that might irretrievably go with him. The plane crash left observers with the impression that by concentrating so much power in his hands, 'Arafat has, wittingly or unwittingly, secured near total control over Fatah.

Thus the plane crash set the Palestinians thinking about how to rehabilitate the establishment they have come to see as their political and national entity.

The Central Council that convened after the plane accident was the first forum for a confrontation between 'Arafat and advocates of democratizing the PLO, rehabilitating some of its institutions, and reallocating power. At the time, 'Arafat sought to prove to these that he was still strong. He had the gut feeling that the theme of democracy had been raised to clip his wings, and so he took a determined stand and defeated his detractors in the council. The battle, however, did not end there, but continued and took on a political complexion. The battle erupted again in the Central Council that convened in October 1992, and again 'Arafat emerged on top. He made the council put aside organizational issues, reform, and democracy in the Palestinian establishment by focusing on politics and the peace process. With such opposition figures as Habash and Hawatimah not in attendance, 'Arafat managed to tip the balance in his favor and secure the council's endorsement of staying with the Middle East peace talks.

'Arafat has always managed to win his battles with his opponents, given that he is the dominating figure in Fatah, and he realizes his preeminence there will ensure his victory over any other opposition faction or a coalition of factions. This state of affairs has persisted and grown stronger. However, the failure of the Middle East peace negotiations to register any significant progress, coupled with the opposition's, especially Hamas' [Islamic Resistance Movement], clout in the occupied territories, transferred the battle from Palestinian establishments to the inner circle of Fatah. The first salvos were fired at meetings of Fatah's Central Committee and the Revolutionary Council that convened in Tunis two months ago. For once, Abu-'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] felt that opposition had caught up with him on his own ground. He felt he had to develop measures to weaken the opposition. The spending cuts ordered by 'Arafat in view of Fatah's financial squeeze have been his main weapon against his opponents, including Hani al-Hasan and 'Abbas Zaki, among others, particularly since they now tended to take the struggle with him to the occupied territories, which the PLO chief regards as his fundamental asset in any confrontation.

Information available to SHIHAN suggests that despite all of this, 'Arafat was not afraid of Fatah's opposition, since he was certain that the opposition does not have enough funds to disable armed and military groups in the occupied territories. Most of these groups were dissolved over the past months as part of confidence-building measures with the Israelis and due to a severe financial crisis.

The opposition, however, managed to make two important achievements in the past two months. The first is the agreement reached with the battalions of 'Izz-al-Din al-Qassam, an affiliate of Hamas, to carry out joint military action. This means a unity on the ground between Fatah and Hamas. The second achievement was receiving large financial support.

These two achievements represented a new stage in confrontation and conflict within Fatah. Joint operations with Hamas would enhance the role of radicals who reject a political settlement and create developments that could harm the peace process. As for the financial support, it is bound to strengthen the opposition to 'Arafat and make them independent of 'Arafat's finances, a longtime decisive factor in buying allegiance and curbing opposition from Fatah and other factions.

Fatah opposition sources point out that Hani al-Hasan is currently leading the opposition. He has managed over the past months to open vital channels with Fatah cadres in the occupied territories, particularly in Hebron, Ramallah, and the north. He also started reissuing "Nida' al-'Asifah Bulletin," a mouthpiece of the opposition seeking to rehabilitate Fatah as a political organization in the Palestinian arena. The bulletin rejects the ongoing peace process, calling for democratizing the movement and rejecting Yasir 'Arafat's unilateral grip on power, as members of opposition put it.

Sources say Hani al-Hasan has managed to create an opposing coalition within Fatah, bringing together, besides himself, 'Abbas Zaki, the official in charge of Fatah activity in Jordan and secretary of the intifadah committee; Muhammad Jihad, Fatah military official; Nasr Yusuf; Abu-Mahir Ghunaym; and Sakhr Habash. 'Arafat's concern about the existence of the coalition drove him to say that Fatah's present situation reminds him of the atmosphere that prevailed prior to the split led by Abu-Musa in 1983. By saying this, 'Arafat wants to indicate the size of the conflict and to paint those who oppose him as secessionists.

A three-day meeting at the Tyche Hotel, financed and supervised by Hani al-Hasan, represented a new turning-point in the conflict. Al-Hasan invited a large number of Fatah leaders in the occupied territories. Together, they drew up a plan for organizational activity inside the occupied territories, independent of Yasir 'Arafat. The attendees deliberated a complete plan to rehabilitate Fatah inside the territories, especially after it was possible to stay independent of 'Arafat financially. Some who attended the Tyche meeting told SHIHAN the attendees were unanimous that some Fatah leaders do not care about national Palestinian concerns and that other leaders are under a cloud. These figures sharply criticized Faysal al-Husayni, Hanan 'Ashrawi, and Dr. Sari Nusaybah, raising security questions about them and even questions relating to their patriotism.

The deliberations were summed up in a final statement that 'Arafat got hours after the end of the meeting.

The sources say President 'Arafat was extremely angry when he heard of this meeting, which he thought was the start of a real split. He called it a coup and a departure from legitimate guidelines. He said he was surprised that al-Hasan and Zaki could hold such a meeting without his authority, especially since he has been in charge of the Western Sector, the occupied territories organization, since the martyrdom of Abu-Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir] in 1988.

'Arafat immediately called for an emergency meeting of the Fatah Central Committee and insisted that all Central Committee members attend to "call to account" those who organized the Tyche meeting and to test their strength and determination.

This time, the encounter did not go 'Arafat's way. He appeared to hold a weak position and under the pressure of heated arguments with the opposition figures—Abu-Mahir [Muhammad Ratib Ghunaym], Hani al-Hasan, and 'Abbas Zaki—had to submit his resignation.

Information made available to SHIHAN by sources close to the Fatah opposition in Amman say a heated argument developed over the political issue and then over finances, especially after 'Arafat admitted to the Fatah Central Committee that the approximately $2 billion Fatah budget is almost depleted. After this statement by 'Arafat, the opposition figures told him they held him personally responsible for trying to cover up financial mismanagement, especially after he began to defend a number of Fatah financial officials suspected of misappropriation. These implicit accusations caused 'Arafat to resign his leadership of the movement in protest and to leave the meeting hall for his home in the Hammam al-Shatt suburb of Tunis. The opposition sensed a victory over 'Arafat, especially after he dropped his condition that the meeting should resume in Hammam al-Shatt and returned to the original meeting venue at al-Quds School.

Fatah opposition sources stress that they do not want to split from the movement and that 'Arafat only speaks of divisionist tendencies in order to smear the opposition. They say the true objective of the opposition is to keep the organization under control and to achieve democracy inside it, as well as to restore to Fatah its imprint on national Palestinian decisionmaking. These sources say 'Arafat may accept that demand and submit to other specific organizational demands in order to absorb the opposition trend at this stage. 'Arafat has realized that if the battle continues, it will be at the expense of his influence inside the occupied territory, especially after he began to see the opposition's influence grow, and especially following the coordination between the Hamas and Fatah military arms inside the occupied territories.

Yasir 'Arafat's supporters, meanwhile, cast doubt on the opposition and accuse it of receiving funds from Saudi Arabia and Iran. They also downplay its size on the ground.

Asked if Saudi Arabia is financing the Fatah opposition through Hani al-Hasan, 'Abbas Zaki reportedly said: Is the money now in 'Arafat's hands not Saudi? Is the money he is trying to get not Saudi?

'Arafat's supporters say that at some point in the last two months, al-Hasan was invited to Saudi Arabia and met with Saudi Foreign Minister Sa'ud al-Faysal, and that these meetings aimed at achieving the Saudi-U.S. objective of weakening the Palestinian president's position. The Fatah opposition, however, says these reports are unfounded and would distort our image. Certain opposition figures assert that 'Arafat has begun to lose strength and that he must make organizational concessions, or, otherwise, he will not be able to win the organizational battle.

Regardless of the outcome of this battle, there is now one clear and tangible result: The battle has already started and it is only a matter of time before one of the parties win it, or the two parties reach a compromise agreement.

Fatah Military Wing Revolt Against 'Arafat Reported

TA2506180993 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 25 Jun 93 p 2

[Report by Pinhas 'Inbari]

[Excerpts] Our correspondent has learned from Palestinian sources in the territories that the Fatah military wing has rebelled against PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat and presented him with a series of ultimatums referring to financial support for the military wing, the PLO structure, and the political process. Our correspondent believes that the Fatah crisis is one of the main reasons for the absence of progress at the Washington talks. 'Arafat is in the midst of a leadership struggle and is barely able to coach the delegation.

The revolt has been brewing for some time, but was finalized in open-telephone-line consultations between the military wing in Amman and the territories about a week ago, at the conclusion of which two similar memos were sent to 'Arafat from the military cadres in the territories and in Amman. The memos included a demand to establish a collective leadership in the PLO, to secede from the peace talks, and to sustain and cultivate the military wing. The memos further demanded that the escalation of the struggle against Israel be coordinated with Hamas [Islamic Resistance Movement]. These memos, according to the sources, were the reason for 'Arafat's resignation announcement at the beginning of the week, which he later withdrew. [passage omitted]

The territories sources added that in discussions in Tunis, military wing officers rejected 'Arafat's claim that the PLO had no money. They accused his confidants of corruption. According to the sources, 'Arafat gave in to their demands and paid them last months' salaries. According to the sources, the military wing officers accused 'Arafat of designing to liquidate the PLO in order to please the Americans.

The sources added that the controversy in the territories has reached a boiling point after 'Arafat tried to restrain the military wing by subordinating it to the Palestinian peace delegation. As a result, clashes—including arson and kidnaping—broke out in Ramallah, Janin, and Hebron between "strike forces" affiliated with the military wing and political committees linked with the Palestinian delegation. At Bi'r Zayt University, a fight between the two sides erupted in the course of a Palestinian folk festival.

The Palestinian sources reported that at the Tunis discussions, 'Arafat accused the military wing officers of following in the footsteps of Abu-Musa [Sa'id Musa Muragha] and said they should resign. The officers replied: We are Fatah; you should resign. [passage omitted]

OPEC Affairs

OAPEC Report Notes 6.7 Percent Rise in Revenues

NC2506204993 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0757 GMT 25 Jun 93

[Excerpt] Cairo, 25 Jun (MENA)—Members of the Organization of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries [OAPEC] made $95 billion in oil revenues in 1992, a 6.7 percent increase over the 1991 figure.

According to the annual report of the OAPEC secretary general, there was a constant growth in the revenues of the member states between 1988 and 1992, except for 1991, when revenues dropped by 9 percent compared with the year before. The drop in that year resulted from the embargo against Iraq, the burning of Kuwaiti oil wells, and the 16 percent decline in oil prices compared to 1990.

OAPEC, which has Cairo as its temporary seat, says in its report that if Iraq and Kuwait were excluded for their special circumstances, the 1992 oil revenues of the nine member states, estimated at current prices, would amount to more than double the 1988 figure. [passage omitted]

Egypt

Security Report Implicates Mosad in Explosions

NC2806192893 Cairo AL-SHA'B in Arabic 25 Jun 93 p 1

[Report by 'Abd-al-Fattah Fayid]

[Text] Informed political sources say the political leadership received a serious security report following the suspicious explosion in Shubra, accusing the Zionist intelligence organ Mosad of committing the crime.

Prepared by a major security agency, the report says there are convincing signs indicating Mosad's involvement in several recent explosions in Cairo, starting with the Wadi al-Nil cafe through the recent explosion in Shubra.

The report warned of further explosions, because the signs are that these incidents are part of a long-term scheme to spread public panic, strike at stability, and shake confidence in the security agencies.

Contrary to what official media circulate, the report rules out the involvement of any Islamist elements in the explosions in Shubra, Madinat al-Nasr, the Pyramids tunnel, the Wadi al-Nil cafe, and the Egyptian museum, since these explosions targeted areas crowded with people and Islamic places of worship.

A senior Interior Ministry official has asserted that the involvement of foreign intelligence bodies in recent incidents is not unlikely. He said the Israeli Mosad might be one of these bodies.

U.S. National Arrested for Possession of Firearms

NC2506205193 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1517 GMT 25 Jun 93

[Text] Al-Fayyum, 25 Jun (MENA)—Security men in al-Fayyum have arrested Zakariya Mahmud al-Tuni, an American national of Egyptian origin, while in possession of 15 firearms, including automatic rifles, pistols, and a large quantity of ammunition. He was also found in possession of a radio set, a number of film projectors, video cassette recorders, and some pornographic tapes, magazines, and pictures. The defendant was referred to the Tamiyah prosecutor, who remanded him in custody for a four-day renewable term, confiscated the seized items, and requested an expert in the art works' rating to examine the tapes and magazines. The defendant was charged with inciting debauchery and obscenity.

The Tamiyah prosecutor asked to inquire from the American Embassy in Cairo if defendant Zakariyah Mahmud al-Tuni obtained the U.S. nationality in 1988, as he stated before the prosecutor. The defendant entered Egypt in 1989.

Linked to Shaykh 'Abd-al-Rahman

NC2806210393 London MBC Television in Arabic 2000 GMT 28 Jun 93

[Text] A security source has revealed that the police have arrested an Egyptian with a U.S. passport who was carrying 15 pistols. The source said the man, Zakariya Muhammad al-Tuni, was arrested in al-Fayyum, south of Cairo, last Friday [25 June].

Egyptian security authorities suspect al-Tuni may be associated with Shaykh 'Umar 'Abd-al-Rahman, who lives in the United States.

The U.S. authorities accused a group of Shaykh 'Abd-al-Rahman's supporters of attacking the World Trade Center in New York in February.

Explosives, Guns, Ammunition Seized in Sinai

NC2906110993 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 26 Jun 93 p 13

[Report by Murid Subhi]

[Excerpts] In a large-scale campaign to seize weapons and explosives in the areas and valleys of southern Sinai before being smuggled to terrorist elements, especially in the Upper Egypt governorates, the security forces have succeeded in seizing 105 hand grenades, 214 dynamite sticks, 6 kg of dynamite, 75 kg of TNT, 500 Goryunov machine-gun bullets, and 55 high explosive shells.

Assistant Major General 'Ali Zayn-al-'Abidin, assistant interior minister for southern Sinai security, has stated that the security organs will continue their campaign against the weapons and explosives merchants, particularly the Sinai bedouins who have exploited the desert area to collect and hide weapons in preparation for smuggling them to terrorists in various governorates. [passage omitted]

Hisham Tharwat, public relations director in the southern Sinai security office, said that the campaign has also resulted in the capture of 13 pistols, 16 machine guns of various makes, six Lee-Enfield rifles, one Goryunov machine gun, 3 other rifles, and 6,000 bullets of various calibers. [passage omitted]

Cairo Papers Criticize U.S. Raid on Baghdad

NC2906085293 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0607 GMT 29 Jun 93

[Text] Cairo, 29 Jun (MENA)—The newspapers AL-AHRAM and AL-AKHBAR criticize the U.S. attack on Baghdad, saying that U.S. President Bill Clinton, eager to show his ability to take quick and firm action, has selected the targets on which to demonstrate this ability poorly.

AL-AHRAM, in a commentary today, expressed sympathy with the Iraqi citizens who were victims of the

U.S. raid. The Egyptian people, who opposed the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, today oppose the raid on Baghdad, the paper writes.

AL-AHRAM calls on the U.S. people and constitutional institutions to restore evenhandedness to U.S. policy and to exhibit as much anger over the killing and rape of Muslims in Bosnia-Herzegovina as the vengeance it wreaked on innocent Iraqis who were made to suffer the consequences of stupid actions in which they took no part.

Another newspaper, AL-AKHBAR, notes in its commentary that the U.S. President overlooked the area in which the worst international crimes and crimes against humanity are taking place. The tiny nation of Bosnia-Herzegovina faces a barely disguised conspiracy to liquidate it, destroy its country, and rape its women. However, the U.S. President hastened to give his orders to fire missiles at the heart of Baghdad in retaliation for charges unproved by any international court.

AL-AKHBAR says that the U.S. President has posed as prosecution attorney, judge, and executioner. He carried out his own sentence and later called the UN Security Council to sanctify the act.

Paper Says Hopes for Progress at Peace Talks Receding

NC2906055993 Cairo Arab Republic of Egypt Radio Network in Arabic 0335 GMT 29 Jun 93

[From the press review]

[Text] The newspaper AL-AHRAM today says that hopes for significant progress in the Arab-Israeli peace talks, expected to resume on Thursday, 1 July, have receded because of persistent and profound differences between Arab and Israeli delegations on the various tracks of the talks. The United States, the paper adds, has so far failed to narrow the differences between the Arabs and the Israelis and pave the way for progress to take place in the talks.

Mubarak Holds Talks With Ethiopian President

NC2606175993 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1734 GMT 26 Jun 93

[Text] Cairo, 26 Jun (MENA)—President Muhammad Husni Mubarak held a separate meeting this evening at the Presidential Office with Ethiopian President Meles Zenawi, who arrived here earlier today to attend the African summit scheduled to open on 28 June. The talks dealt with the distinguished relations between the two countries as well as the subjects on the African summit's agenda.

Libya

Al-Muntasir Comments on Lockerbie, Jerusalem Visit

NC2606163393 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1545 GMT 26 Jun 93

[Text] Cairo, 26 Jun (MENA)—Libya's 'Umar al-Muntasir, secretary of the General People's Committee for Foreign Liaison (the foreign minister), has expressed his satisfaction at the African states' adoption of the Lockerbie issue as an African problem, particularly during the African summit meeting.

In an interview with MENA today, al-Muntasir said that Libya is still seeking a fair and clean trial for the Libyans Western states have accused in connection with the Lockerbie crisis.

The Libyan official was asked what he expects of the UN Security Council when it considers next August the sanctions imposed on Libya since April 1992. He said that he does not expect any change in the situation, either by increasing and tightening the sanctions or abolishing them.

He emphasized that Libya will not hand its citizens over to any state. We cannot do that legally, particularly since we have no extradition agreements with the United States, Britain, or France, he said. He remarked, however, that Libya is willing to hand the suspects over to a neutral state to stand a fair and clean trial.

The Libyan minister asserted that many states support Libya in its dispute with the West in connection with the Lockerbie issue. In addition to Egypt of course, the Arab Maghreb Union and other European states, such as Italy, Germany, and Spain, are among these states, he said. He added that Egypt in particular is playing a great important role in this field.

As to the possibility of imposing an oil embargo on Libya, the Libyan minister noted that the UN Security Council has not been able to pursue such an approach because some European states—primarily Italy, Germany, and Spain—would have been adversely affected. He asserted that the economic situation in these states could not allow it and that these states will not be able to do without Libyan oil in the long run.

Al-Muntasir asserted that Libya has already referred the issue to the International Court of Justice in The Hague. He added, however, that Libya is willing to discuss the issue in any other neutral state.

Answering a question on changes in the Libyan policy and its openness to Israel, particularly after the Libyan pilgrims' recent visit to Israel, the Libyan minister said that Libya's policy and its stance on the Palestinian issue have not changed. He noted that the delegation's visit was made upon the personal initiative of its members. He also pointed out that a visit by Libyan Jews to their

original homeland, Libya, would not imply a change in the Libyan policy. He noted that few Jews still live in Tripoli.

Al-Muntasir added that the law will be applied to the members of the Libyan delegation that visited Jerusalem if the visit is proven to be in violation of the law. He denied that the object of the visit was to improve Libya's image in the United States.

The Libyan official denied reports that Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi intends to visit Israel, noting at the same time that Libya will soon host a conference for the three religions, which will be held under the supervision of the Society for the Care of Religions headed by Giulio Andreotti, the well-known Italian politician and former Italian prime minister.

Regarding Libya's recent moves to cancel the contracts of Egyptian primary school teachers, al-Muntasir said that this decision was not something new as there was already a Libyan decision to put Libyan teachers in charge of education at Libya's primary schools. He added that the decision concerns the nonrenewal of contracts and not canceling them and that it does not apply to preparatory and secondary schools.

In reply to a question about the status of current Libyan-Saudi relations, particularly in the wake of the Libyan pilgrims issue, al-Muntasir stressed that relations between Libya and Saudi Arabia are normal and good. He denied that there are any differences between the two countries.

On his country's relations with Chad, al-Muntasir said that the dispute over the Aozou region no longer exists and that relations between the two countries have returned to normal.

In conclusion, al-Muntasir called on the Security Council to be more effective and to review the sanctions imposed against Libya.

Al-Qadhdhafi Addresses Teachers on National Service

LD2506201493 Tripoli Libyan Television Network in Arabic 1959 GMT 24 Jun 93

["First part" of address by Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi to the Libyan General Trade Union of Teachers on 23 June; place not given—recorded]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] The first thing posed to the Libyan people is that a law will be promulgated to the effect that national service will not only concern the military. Who says national service means you carry a rifle for 24 or 12 months? Is other work not patriotic? Is the work of the teacher, the civil servant, the doctor, the farmer, the good merchant not patriotic? Why should we say national service means only bearing arms? By God, bearing arms is not in fact national service. Bearing arms becomes necessary to defend life itself, your home when the enemy attacks you. You would not be interested in knowing whether a law governs it or not. You just take your rifle, and if you have no rifle, you take a pick and fight. [passage omitted]

The issue at hand is national service in other domains. National service in other domains is truly interesting, and it perhaps need laws. For example, we have hospitals owned by the Libyan people, where you find doctors, nurses, technicians, civil servants, etc., where Libyans get free medical treatment. They have been built by the Libyan people with oil money. [passage omitted]

There is now almost nothing in the Libyan people's treasury except for oil money and other revenues from taxation and fees we pay to the treasury. All this is known to the Libyan people. Every penny is accounted for. Anyone who does not know, should find out. [passage omitted]

Suppose that 100,000 Libyans must perform national service in 1994. They will be the armed people that we want to carry arms and be our guards for one year. Then the training management or the defense committee will come and say: I can absorb 40,000. I can train them and give them weapons. They will be guards for us until another 40,000 or 50,000 replace them in one or two years. Well then, what would we do with the other 60,000? The defense committee says it needs only a certain number. Thus the state, the people, ought to resolve the case of the remaining 60,000. Should we say to them: no, you are exempt from national service? But is national service just bearing arms? I have told you that bearing arms is not a national service; it is self-defense. Who is who in the 60,000? Suppose there are 20,000 doctors among them. Then we say to them: You, the 20,000 doctors, discharge your national service for one year in the Libyan public hospitals. Serve your people for one year without salary or an allowance. After one year we say to them: You have discharged your national service. Thank you. You do not have to go to the Army or bear arms, you have discharged your national service and you are free. This is national service.

Then we come to teachers, primary and secondary school teachers, not university teachers. The situation at universities will be the same as that of the medical university, which we used as a model. This university would be owned by the professors of medicine and doctors working there, and if society wants to pay students' fees then it can do so; it would pay them to this socialist university.

Regarding secondary and primary schools, there are teachers in them who are getting full salaries in return for teaching. [passage omitted] We have schools and teachers to whom society is paying salaries. But given the population growth and the possibility of diminishing resources, could we force teachers to teach continuously, to stay in the job even if, for instance, I cannot pay him a salary every month, or I cannot increase his salary or his allowances? Can society build schools, bring in glass,

timber, cement, metal, blackboards, chairs, and lamps continuously for any number of school children who come? [passage omitted]

You think we are going to do away with teachers and bring others to teach children. No. Teachers, like hospitals, involve national service. A teacher who graduates serves his country by teaching the sons of his country for one year as national service, without a salary or an allowance. After discharging this duty, he is finished—bye, bye. The teacher will have discharged his national service, and he is free. He can open a school, a shop, a farm, a workshop. Society tells him that his duty is to discharge national service for the sons of his country for one year—supposedly without a salary. But they can give you an allowance; if they can give you an allowance so be it, but normally national service is free. One would serve one's country for 12 months for free. This is for all of us; it is your duty to serve your country for 12 months in the domain you specialize in, and afterward you are free.

If your country needs you and it has the money to employ you and entrust you with a public function, then well and good. But if it has no money, then it will tell you that you are performing national service. Let each one serve (?the way he wants) with full freedom. If we graduate teachers ready to teach, they say: Congratulations, educate for one year as national service for your country. I say: Alright, I have a duty to my people—my people who educated me—and I have a duty to them. No matter what I am, and as long as I am a teacher, this is my homeland and my duty is to teach in it for a year free of charge; this is national service. I will thank you if you provide me with the cost of cigarettes and pocket money, as this will be extra. After performing national service as teachers in schools for a year we will leave. We will be free to do what we want. Then another batch of teachers graduate; it will replace us and perform the national service it has to do. Therefore, schools will continuously have teachers. [passage omitted] Government service is the same. Government employment can be discharged through national service. Every quarter a number of people—10, 20, 30—can work for one year or even six months as national service, either through a grant or without. They will carry out the tasks of these offices in their own quarter and then will hand over these offices to another group. When they do that they will become free to do what they want.

This teacher or this doctor or this government official who performs national service for one year for his country and then leaves may have originally come from a shop and will continue to be a tradesman, or from a farm, which he will go back to, or from a workshop, to which he will return. He will leave his job and will return to it after one year. If the country needs and it has the capability to keep him and he is prepared to accept the contract between him and the society, then the contract will be signed. Even this type of contract will have conditions. [passage omitted] I would like to see you, brothers, meet and say: if national service is approved by the people and introduced in all these fields, we will decide our fate freely. [passage omitted]

Excessive courtesy, sweet talk, and deception would not allow us to do anything useful for the future. I can delude you, lie to you, and deceive you, and tomorrow you and your families would be in a bad condition.

I want the Libyan people to live a good life. The way we are going now, we will lose money without making a future for ourselves. [passage omitted] Very well if you decide that the teacher would teach for one school year—that is, a maximum of nine months—as national service and even for no wage. Well, that will be national service that we have decided. However, where would that teacher, who used to receive a salary for this profession, go? Would he be thrown into the street to die? Is it conceivable that I would accept that teacher and his family to be thrown into the street? This is not the fate of the Libyan. However, only if you have decided. We want you to decide. You may say I am a teacher receiving a salary for teaching, however, if it became national service and in order to guarantee my future and the future of my family, there must be so on and so forth. [passage omitted]

If it is decided that this will be national service then that is final, the schools will do national service. Before the train passes by and before time passes by we have to decide how to manage our situation. I want to guarantee the future for every teacher, state employee, and doctor and all state-employed person and his family, a future that is better than the present. [passage omitted]

There are people who take money from embassies. These are base people. Why is that? Some Libyans have gone over to the U.S. intelligence services and are now working as agents for the U.S. intelligence services. So do not tell me there are none. They might even be in the country. Instead of fleeing, they might have stayed. They are taking money from foreign embassies. In return, they have to make up jokes or ridicule the revolutionary action or the revolutionary change.

It is very clear. They told you: That is it; education or health care will be fee-paying. Who said that? The person who made up the joke or the agent decided it by himself and issued it. A resolution was issued from the street. Who said that? [passage omitted]

I apologize for talking for so long, but we are making amends now for the mistake, the misunderstanding that happened—not meeting you before. We are meeting and discussing how to decide our fate.

Morocco

Interior Minister Comments Further on Elections

LD2806131993 Rabat MAP in English 1240 GMT 28 Jun 93

[Text] Rabat, June 28 (MAP)—The poll of June 25 was transparent, fair and sincere and all necessary measures

were taken at the legislative, regulatory and administrative levels to secure to the legislative elections an environment of trust and serenity, said Moroccan Minister of the Interior and Information Driss Basri.

At a news conference he held here Saturday [26 June], Basri who surveyed the atmosphere wherein the electoral campaign and the poll were held and who gave figures on the number of candidates and the participation of each party, information on the new elects' age, occupation and education level as well as the final results of the poll, spoke of the public funding of the campaign to which the state allotted 100 million dirhams, of access of political parties to the public media and of administrative and jurisdictional guarantees provided. He also surveyed the votes gleaned by each party and commented on the participation rate which stood at 63 pc [percent].

Basri also dealt with the themes tackled in the campaign by the 2,072 candidates and their parties who called, according to their trends, for the neutrality of the administration and the transparency and sincerity of the elections, promotion of human rights, development of the rural world and economic liberalism in addition to improvement of the social sector.

The minister of the interior and information said that the '[word indistinct] constitutional reforms approved by a referendum last September constituted a major lever in the unfolding of the electoral campaign'. He said that besides the fact that this reform is evidence to the finalization of the new institutional building, it has highlighted a reality that has today [words indistinct] namely that in order to govern unavoidable, [words indistinct] it is most necessary to be backed by a parliamentary majority.

It also opened the way to change over of political power between parties and shed a new light on the relationship between governing and legislating, Basri said adding that the constitution institutes a permanent control of the parliament over the government and opens the way to an intensification and diversification of consultation through the setting up of the economic and social council.

Answering the newsmen's questions, Basri said the koutla (USFP, PI, PPS and OADP) [reference to Democratic Bloc, comprising the Socialist Union of Popular Forces, the Istiqlal Party, the Party of Progress and Socialism, and the Organization of Popular Democratic Action] which now holds 99 seats at the parliament must total 163 after the coming indirect election of one third of the House of Representatives to hold the majority. If these parties do not reach the figure, they will have to form coalitions with other parties to form a governmental cabinet, he said.

Basri indicated that the Moroccan Government will shortly set the date for indirect elections of the remaining one third of the parliament (111 seats).

Asked whether the finance bill of next year will be drafted by the current cabinet, Basri said the task will be vested to the current cabinet if it is still in office by next November, otherwise the bill will be elaborated by the new cabinet.

To a question on the controversy raised by some between over the holding of the legislative elections in the Sahara provinces while a UN-referendum is projected in this region, Basri said the Moroccan national consultations concern all Moroccans regardless of the region they live in. And as the legislative elections concern Morocco, Moroccans vote wherever they are and the Sahrawis are Moroccans. He said some people protest the organization of the poll in the Sahara. These waged war against Morocco and lost it. Morocco's warm belief that the Sahara is Moroccan territory is unshakeable, he pointed out. He added that the legislative elections are a purely Moroccan matter that has nothing to do with the referendum where only the Sahrawis registered on the lists drawn by the United Nations will participate.

Basri also regretted that none of the 6 Moroccan Jews who ran for the elections won but, he said, the fact that they ran for the elections is evidence to their attachment to their homeland and to its institutions. Basri said in conclusion that Morocco has opened a new page of its history, a page made of maturity that places it among the nations most attached to democracy and freedom, two principles Morocco irreversibly is committed to.

Parties Underline Election Success of Women Candidates

LD2806133793 Rabat MAP in English 1234 GMT 28 Jun 93

[Text] Rabat, June 28 (MAP)—The Socialist Union of Popular Forces [USFP] and the Istiqlal Party [PI] took note of the overwhelming support of the voters to their candidates to the legislative elections and their backing to the two parties' joint action strategy.

In a joint release run Sunday [28 June] by their dailies, the two parties which won 91 seats at the poll of last Friday underlined the success of two women in the elections saying that this election opens to Moroccan women new prospects to contribute to reform and to development.

The two women who won the elections and who are thus the first women to enter the parliament are Badia Skalli from the USFP, elected in Casablanca, and Latifa Bennani Smires from the PI, elected in Fes.

At the news conference he held Saturday, Minister of the Interior and Information Driss Basri said the election of the two women to the parliament is a major gain and that their presence in the coming cabinet depends on the future prime minister.

Sudan

Ministry Statement Condemns U.S. Attack on Baghdad

EA2806170793 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1040 GMT 28 Jun 93

[Text] Khartoum, 28 June (SUNA)—The Foreign Ministry issued a statement on 27 June about the American aggression against Baghdad. The statement condemned the unjustified aggression by the United States against the civilian quarters of Baghdad because it caused casualties among innocent civilians, including women, children, and the elderly.

The statement said that the aggression provided a living example of the arrogance of the new world order. The statement then added that resorting to the Security Council after the crime had been implemented in order to justify the barbarous aggression was but a pathetic indicator of what the vaunted new world order sought for the international community.

The statement said that Sudan condemned this treacherous attack and noted the double standard of the United States showing its barbarity and aggression in Iraq while miserably failing to face up to Israeli violence against the unarmed Palestinians. The statement said the United States had also demonstrated its inability to confront terrorism.

The statement called on the international community not to let these reckless crimes pass without punishment. International legitimacy should not be exploited for malicious practices and the planning of naked aggression. The [word indistinct] aggression against Iraq must be condemned.

Eritrean President Visits Before OAU Summit

EA2606191593 Omdurman Sudan Broadcasting Service Network in Arabic 1700 GMT 26 Jun 93

[Text] Eritrean President Isayas Afewerki arrived in the country this afternoon at the head of a high-level delegation on a visit to the country during which he will attend the celebrations marking the fourth anniversary of the national salvation revolution. He will also discuss bilateral relations and issues of common interest. During the Eritrean president's two-day visit, he will hold talks with President al-Bashir.

In a press statement at the airport, his excellency spoke about the deep Sudanese-Eritrean relations. He described them as strategic relations that developed after the liberation of Eritrea in the form of agreements and joint cooperation in all fields. Isayas Afewerki added that his visit to Sudan was a confirmation of the developing relations between the two countries which had taken a new dimension following the establishment of the state of Eritrea. His excellency spoke about the importance of developing relations of cooperation between the two countries, taking into account the new phase which requires a new formulation for the development of relations and undertaking of a joint collective role between the two countries to confront the issues of the region.

Meets With al-Bashir

EA2706125893 Khartoum SUNA in English 0930 GMT 27 Jun 93

[Text] Khartoum, 27 Jun (SUNA)—Chairman of the Revolution Command Council (RCC) General 'Umar al-Bashir and the Eritrean president, Isayas Afewerki, held official talks at the Friendship Hall Saturday evening [26 June].

In a press statement, state minister at the presidency, Dr. Ghazi Salah al-Din, said that the talks have reviewed bilateral relations and the situation in the Horn of Africa's area, as well as the issues to be discussed in the African summit conference due to be held in Cairo next Monday [28 June]. Dr. Salah al-Din has explained that the viewpoints of the two sides were identical.

On the other hand, the RCC chairman gave a dinner banquet at the Friendship Hall in honour of the Eritrean president and the accompanying delegation. The reception was attended by the TNA [Transitional National Assembly] speaker, Muhammad al-Amin Khalifah; the RCC members Ibrahim Nayil Edam and Bakri Hasan Salih; Chief Justice Jalal 'Ali Lutfi; (RCC) Secretary General 'Abd-al-Rahim Muhammad Husayn; and any number of ministers and ambassadors accredited to Sudan.

Comments on Talks, Departs

EA2706150093 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1045 GMT 27 Jun 93

[Text] Khartoum, 27 Jun (SUNA)—Eritrean President Isayas Afewerki left Sudan for home today after a two-day official visit to the country. Before his departure, the Eritrean president said that his visit to the country was successful by all standards, as the development of Sudanese-Eritrean relations in all fields was discussed. His excellency added that the fields in which cooperation has already been achieved include trade, communications, roads, and development projects. Organizations from the two countries have been charged with preparing blueprints for projects and other agreements.

Lieutenant General 'Umar al-Bashir, chairman of the Revolution Command Council [RCC] and the Council of Ministers, said that our relations with Eritrea have been very good. Since achieving independence after the referendum, relations have moved to the level of official agreements to link Sudan with Eritrea. Lt. Gen. al-Bashir said that the interrelations among Sudan, Ethiopia, and Eritrea constitute a strong and firm base for relations between the states of the Horn of Africa, which might become a model for inter-African relations and their advancement.

The two presidents attended a ceremony to mark the opening of the Eritrean Embassy in Khartoum. The Eritrean president was seen off by Major General al-Tijani Adam al-Tahir, member of the RCC; Judiciary Minister Jalal 'Ali Lutfi; and Brigadier 'Abd-al-Rahim Muhammad Husayn, interior minister; in addition to a number of government officials, the Sudanese ambassador in Eritrea, and many ambassadors accredited to Khartoum.

Transitional Assembly Approves General Budget

EA2506113093 Khartoum SUNA in English 1630 GMT 24 Jun 93

[Text] Khartoum, 24 Jun (SUNA)—Transitional National Assembly (TNA) under chairmanship of the speaker of TNA, Muhammad al-Amin Khalifah, approved the project of general budget for the financial year of 1993/94 at the second reading.

Finance minister, 'Abd-al-Rahim Hamdi reviewed deliberation of the members on the budget, reviewing general characteristics for the budget, emphasizing that the budget was aimed at reducing the volume of inflation to 45 percent.

On supervision of foreign currency, Hamdi said it was decided to (?work) by an (?accrued) law not applicable before in Sudan. Hamdi emphasized no retreat from the decision of economic-liberation policies, reviewing the activation of export for various commodities.

Tunisia

Foreign Minister on Terrorism, Regional Issues

NC2706062393 Cairo AL-WAFD in Arabic 20 Jun 93 p 5

[Interview with Foreign Minister Habib Ben Yahya by Sana' al-Sa'id, in Tunis; date not given]

[Text] [Al-Sa'id] Tunisia, which is a member of the Middle East peace steering committee, is playing a remarkable, earnest, and helpful role in promoting regional peace. How do you assess the 10th round of bilateral negotiations?

[Ben Yahya] We base our assessment on that of the Palestinian brothers and the cordon states. We hope the 10th round will yield encouraging results. On the multilateral talks, Tunisia is a member of all the relevant committees, including the steering committee, where it represents the Arab Maghreb Union countries [AMU]. It takes its task seriously in line with its responsibility toward the overall Arab group, as current AMU chairman, and as the PLO's host country.

[Al-Sa'id] Do you still maintain that Iran exports terrorism to other Muslim countries? Wasn't Tunisia one of the countries that accused Iran of exporting the Islamic revolution to other regional states?

[Ben Yahya] We were one of the first countries to speak openly about this issue. At the Islamic Conference Organization [ICO] meeting in Istanbul in August 1991, we urged that the Islamic world be in line with ICO and UN principles of nonintervention. Since then we have been promoting this objective with fraternal countries, particularly Egypt. The ICO adopted a resolution to this effect at its Istanbul conference and at its subsequent summit in Dakar. Similar work was done within the Nonaligned Movement and in cooperation with African countries. This resulted in a historic Nonaligned Movement resolution in Jakarta stating that Islam is a religion that unites, but does not divide, a religion of tolerance that eschews one-upmanship. Democratic dialogue in our countries—Tunisia, Egypt, and others—is founded on the premise that we might disagree on certain issues, but we remain Arabs and Muslims. A dialogue based on the premise that I am more Arab or more Muslim than my neighbor is futile. We have declared that we disagree with countries who use religion as a vehicle for certain objectives or as a new ideology. We hope to find a formula that will save the Islamic world from having to live through an already outdated age of ideological conflicts and that all those countries that wish to resort to such methods will return to reason. We hope to achieve this task through collective action within the Arab League, the ICO, the OAU, and the Nonaligned Movement.

[Al-Sa'id] Is this why you postponed your visit to Iran?

[Ben Yahya] Contacts are under way with my colleague the Iranian foreign minister to set a date for such a visit that agrees with his and my circumstances and our prior engagements. For this visit to take place there must be a rapprochement of policies, a willingness to adopt clear stances, and benefits to accrue to both countries. Tunisia is a small country, but one with principles. It has no enemies and seeks none.

[Al-Sa'id] Did the recent visit to Tunisia by Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Mohammad 'Ali Besharati help to improve bilateral relations?

[Ben Yahya] The visit was part of a regional tour that also took him to Libya and Morocco and was meant to clarify things. We listened with full interest to what the Iranian delegation had to say. We seriously explained the Tunisian views regarding the situation in the region and expressed the hope that intensive efforts would be exerted to set the Islamic house in order.

[Al-Sa'id] What about Sudan and its involvement in terrorism? Is there any proof about it?

[Ben Yahya] There are several pieces of evidence; I need not reopen this file now. But I would like to emphasize that we are not trying to antagonize the Sudanese people or any other peoples. We just do not accept and condemn their policies and speak frankly about that; it is a credit to Tunisia that it states its views in the open. We are not among those who use imagination or illusion. We are talking objectively and have conclusive evidence and

proof. As for proof, there is plenty, and it is known. Everything points to Sudan's involvement in terrorism.

[Al-Sa'id] Aren't the Lockerbie issue and current events in Algeria two things that obstruct and harm the march of the AMU?

[Ben Yahya] Much has been written about the obstruction of the AMU march. Of course there are objective reasons for this, which we do not deny, but there is also a time factor. The AMU is only four years old. The achievements are being considered in the work of the various institutions and in the dialogue among the experts, ministers, and competent committees. In a few days, the follow-up committee and the foreign ministers will hold meetings. So there is a new mechanism within the union. We do not deny that some issues in and outside the region affect the union, as several things affected the march for a unified Europe. I do not want to say the march has stopped because of these circumstantial problems, which need some time to solve. The march, thank God, continues and we work seriously on its basis, because there is no alternative to the Maghreb trend toward economic integration and coordination. Our endeavors today seek to set up an Arab Maghreb economic market, which, if established, would be a step toward integration with the Arab world as a whole.

[Al-Sa'id] What is Tunisia's role in solving the problem between Libya and the West over Lockerbie?

[Ben Yahya] There are collective efforts within the framework of the seven-member committee set up by the Arab League toward that end. There are also collective efforts within the AMU, which is holding contacts with other European and U.S. groups, the Security Council, and the UN secretary general, who visited Tunis recently and who we talked to about it. So, the contacts continue. There is also coordination between Egypt and Tunisia, because, as neighbors of Libya, we are affected by what happens to it. We have an interest in solving the problem and we are eager to see the crisis settled peacefully and legally. President Ben Ali contacted President Mubarak often. We have coordinated our positions, which the Libyan brothers understand, and we hope this will lead to a peaceful solution soon.

[Al-Sa'id] An envoy of the Iraqi president recently visited Tunisia. How would you describe Tunisian-Iraqi relations and what was the reason for the visit?

[Ben Yahya] The visit was in the context of a tour of the Arab Maghreb. We listened with interest to what the Iraqi delegation said about the conditions of the Iraqi people. We hope we will find a way to learn from the past and deal with today's challenges.

Western Sahara

UN Committee To Draw Up Voting List for Referendum

LD2806151993 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 1200 GMT 28 Jun 93

[Text] Regarding the problem of defining the voters' lists for the self-determination referendum in the Western Sahara, the United Nations recently set up a committee to establish who is eligible to vote, which is headed by a Briton, Eric Johnson. The committee is due to begin its work today.

In an effort to find a settlement to the conflict between Morocco and the Polisario Front by organizing the referendum, the UN committee charged with establishing voters' eligibility, headed by Eric Johnson, today begins its task of preparing the list of people who have the right to vote in the referendum to be held in the Western Sahara under the auspices of the United Nations.

The task assigned to this committee is considered extremely important, since the success of the UN peace plan depends on it. It is also considered a step in reconciling the two sides to the dispute over who should have the right to vote in the referendum, bearing in mind that the basic difference between Morocco and the Polisario Front is over the establishing of the voters' list. The Polisario Front is adhering to the Spanish census of 1974 which puts the number of voters as 74,000, while Morocco is asking for almost 120,000 people to be added. The Moroccan authorities say that the latter were forced by the pressure of Spanish colonialism to take refuge in Morocco from the beginning of the present century.

The visit to the area of UN Secretary General Butrus-Ghali and a high-level delegation at the beginning of this month allowed him to gain a better understanding of the positions of the two sides in the conflict. He presented them with a conciliation plan regarding the existing problems of establishing identity definition criteria.

The Saharan leadership considered this compromise solution, whose contents have not yet been revealed, to be worthy of concern, and replied by asking for additional clarification. Morocco, on the other hand, has up till now not replied to the UN proposals and is insisting that 32 Saharan tribes of Moroccan origin should be included in the list of voters participating in the referendum.

Bahrain

PRC Vice Premier Visits To Promote Cooperation

Says 'Eager to Exchange Views'

JN2806173093 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0520 GMT 28 Jun 93

[Text] Manama, 27 Jun (WAKH)—PRC Vice Premier Li Lanqing has said he is eager to exchange views with Bahraini officials to promote bilateral cooperation and review issues of mutual concern.

Upon his arrival in Manama this evening, he expressed hope his talks will produce positive results in order to boost bilateral commercial and economic cooperation. He expressed his country's desire to increase cooperation in these fields in the interest of the two countries.

Since the introduction of an open policy 15 years ago, the Chinese economy has been making progress in foreign trade, he said, noting his country's readiness to meet the needs of the Gulf states for Chinese exports.

He added that Chinese firms have a good reputation in investment and joint projects, noting that the Chinese Government provides encouragement to these firms.

Meets With Commerce Minister

JN2806194293 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1415 GMT 28 Jun 93

[Excerpt] Manama, 28 Jun (WAKH)—Minister of Commerce and Agriculture Habib Ahmad al-Qasim met with Chinese State Council Vice Premier Li Lanqing, who is currently visiting Bahrain.

During the meeting, they reviewed the existing relations between the two friendly countries, particularly those pertaining to economic, trade, and investment areas, as well as attempts to find the best way to promote them.

They also stressed the need to increase the volume of trade exchange between Bahrain and China and open new horizons of cooperation. [passage omitted]

Received by Amir

JN2806181093 Manama WAKH in English 1550 GMT 28 Jun 93

[Excerpt] Manama, June 28 (GNA)—H. H. [His Highness] the Amir of Bahrain Shaykh 'Isa Bin-Salman Al Khalifah, in the presence of the Prime Minister, Shaykh Khalifah Bin-Salman Al Khalifah, and the Crown Prince and Commander in-Chief of the Defence Force Shaykh Hamad Bin-'Isa Al Khalifah, received here this morning the Chinese Deputy Prime Minister Li Lanqing and his accompanying delegations, currently visiting Bahrain.

H. H. the amir underlined friendly relations between Bahrain and the Peoples Republic of China.

H. H. the amir expressed Bahrain's keenness to continue support to bilateral development, economic, trade and cultural cooperation.

The audience discussed regional and international issues of common interest and means of promoting bilateral relations in various fields.

On his part, the Chinese deputy premier expressed his appreciation for hospitality he received in Bahrain and highlighted Bahrain's development in various domains as a result of the wise policy of the country's leadership.

He also stressed China's desire to further strengthen bilateral trade and economic cooperation. [passage omitted]

Kuwait

Bush Case Held Under Tight Security After Baghdad Raid

LD2806172093 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1435 GMT 28 Jun 93

[Excerpts] Kuwait, 28 Jun (KUNA)— A principal prosecution witness in the case of the assassination attempt against former American President George Bush affirmed today that the Iraqi intelligence service considers the assassination of Bush to be a national duty, as he is Iraq's enemy number one.

This was claimed before the State Security Court at its third hearing this month in the testimony of the officer who led the operation to arrest the terrorist network commissioned to assassinate Bush during his visit to Kuwait last April.

The witness stated that the second defendant, Wali al-Ghazali, a 36-year-old of Iraqi nationality, said during interrogation that an official in the Iraqi intelligence service in the city of Basrah, named Abu Mruwah, had ordered him to assassinate Bush because he was "Iraq's enemy number one and the cause of the economic embargo imposed on Iraq, and that it was a national duty."

Today's hearing was held amid tight security measures. The trials are presided over by Judge Salah al-Fahd.

The unprecedented tight security measures were imposed following yesterday's U.S. missile attack on the headquarters of the Iraqi intelligence service in Baghdad in response to the assassination attempt against Bush. Washington asserts it has proof of the Iraqi intelligence service involvement in the assassination attempt. [passage omitted]

The first and second defendents confessed at the first State Security Court hearing details of the Iraqi intelligence service providing them with funds, arms and explosives.

The defence lawyers of the first and second defendants, Muhammad al-Yasin and Najib al-Waqiyan, have protested the method of cross examination and requested a separate cross examination of the defendants. [passage omitted]

Today's hearing was attended by a large number of foreign news agency and local press representatives.

At last Saturday's hearing the two defendants denied being exposed to coercion to make their confessions in the investigation. They also pleaded to the court for mercy, and said they feared the wrath of the Iraqi intelligence service if they refused to carry out the operation.

The third hearing is still in progress. The main prosecution witness is expected to be cross-examined by the public prosecutor and the defense lawyer.

Information Minister Discusses Arab Reconcilation

LD2506193593 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1253 GMT 25 Jun 93

[Excerpts] Abu Dhabi, 25 June—In a press statement published here today, Kuwaiti Information Minister Sa'ud Nasir al-Sabah stressed that the issue of Arab reconciliation must come from the states that supported the Iraqi occupation of the State of Kuwait, emphasizing those states' responsibility for the rift that exists in inter-Arab relations.

In a statement to the UAE [United Arab Emirates] daily AL-ITTIHAD, Shaykh Sa'ud said: Those states must take the initiative to persuade the Iraqi regime to implement the UN Security Council resolutions on Kuwaiti rights, foremost among which are the issues of the border demarcation, releasing prisoners and hostages held in Iraqi prisons, and reparations resulting from the Iraqi aggression.

He added: Some officials in the states that supported the Iraqi aggression against the State of Kuwait must translate their statements regarding the cleansing of Arab air into deeds and practical initiatives and not stop at statements that are of doubtful credibility. He stressed: Kuwait does not want to get into a distorted rapprochement with those states.

Shaykh Sa'ud al-Sabah also stressed that Kuwait did not want to be the only one with views on Arab reconciliation and that this matter required consultation with regional states, making it clear that Kuwait was the first victim of an aggression that was aimed at all the GCC [Gulf Cooperation Council] member states. He said: Kuwait currently enjoys the support of 180 UN member states, while the Iraqi regime and its supporters are living in isolation.

Shaykh Sa'ud stressed that the Iraqi regime was posing a threat to the region's stability and security, because, since it had lost its control over some sovereignty in the north and south, and after its situation had deteriorated and the regime approached death, it had resorted to terrorist methods of sending infiltrators to Kuwait to destabilize security in it and in the region.

Concerning Iran, Shaykh Sa'ud Nasir al-Sabah expressed the hope that dealing with it would be on equal basis "because maintaining security in the Gulf region is the responsibility of all the states."

But he also said that "if we lose control of our security due to the small size of our countries, we should seek the help of our brothers and friends," expressing hope that Iran would understand that.

The Kuwaiti information minister rejected the description by some of the outcome of the international Iraq-Kuwait Boundary Demarcation Commission as "a mine that might blow up any time," stressing that the real mine is not demarcating the borders between the two countries, and for Iraq not to be committed to the implementation of the international resolution pertaining to this issue.

Shaykh Sa'ud stressed that the Iraqi aggression on the State of Kuwait was not on borders nor on oil, it was motivated by premeditated ill intention on the part of Iraq. He pointed out that Iraq tried to leave the border demarcation issue with Kuwait outstanding and prevaricated in order to use it as a card to pressure Kuwait.

He emphasized that Kuwait did not raise the border demarcation issue during the Iraq-Iran war, so that nobody could say that Kuwait exploits the outbreak of war and imposes borders.

He said that this was so despite the fact that Kuwait observed Iraq creeping southward and seizing Kuwaiti territories and oil wells and that Iraq tried to impose this as a fait accompli after the war. [passage omitted]

Regarding the lifting of the embargo by Kuwait on companies that trade with Israel, Shaykh Sa'ud said that there was misunderstanding and exaggeration on that issue, and that it was not the way it was portrayed by the media. The information minister confirmed Kuwait's commitment to the direct embargo on Israel. He said that Kuwait's decision pertained to indirect embargo, namely with international companies that traded with Israel, such as automobile and aircraft companies.

In reply to a question on whether there were problems that prevented holding joint exercises between Kuwaiti forces and those of the Peninsula Shield of the GCC member states, Shaykh Sa'ud al-Sabah stressed: The Peninsula Shield forces have a permanent presence in Kuwait, and they continually have joint training exercises with Kuwaiti forces—a matter that does not need to be advertised.

In reply to a question on the reasons for turning down Lebanon's request to join the Damascus Declaration, he said that this question concerned the Damascus Declaration foreign ministers. However, in this context, he

praised Lebanon's honorable stance vis-a-vis the crisis of Kuwait and the Iraqi aggression. He said that Kuwait will not forget that Lebanon was the first Arab country to condemn the Iraqi occupation.

* Foreign Minister Says Jordan Delinquent on Loans

93P50217A London AL-HAYAH in Arabic 18 Jun 93 p 1

[Report By Hamad al-Jasir]

[Excerpt] Kuwait—Kuwaiti Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad has said that Kuwait provided aid to Jordan in the form of loans between 1979 and 1989 of close to $42 billion, and is still waiting for Jordan to pay back $560 million of these loans.

KUNA reported that Shaykh Sabah stated in his answer to a parliamentary question that Kuwaiti support for Jordan during this period came in response to the decisions of the Baghdad summit of 1979, which bound Kuwait to pay $196,428,500 in annual aid to Jordan for a period of 10 years, beginning with fiscal year 1979-80.

He indicated that Jordan paid back $1,243,469,747 of the aid up to fiscal year 1988-89, and that the balance owed was $720,815,253 as of August 1990.

Shaykh Sabah went on, in his answer to Deputy al-Sayyid 'Abd-al-'Aziz al-'Adasani, to say that the Kuwaiti Government, represented by the Finance Ministry, paid $5,135,367 in two payments on 12 February and 31 December 1992 to the Kuwaiti Oil Corporation—i.e., after the liberation of Kuwait—in exchange for an oil and fuels shipment sent to the Jordanian petroleum refinery on 2 August 1990, the date of the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait.

He explained that Jordan, in the years between 1989 and 1992, paid $162 million, and that it still owed a balance as of fiscal year 1991/1992 of about $559 million.

Saudi Arabia

Baghdad Strike Marks 'Escalation' by Washington

PM2806161693 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 28 Jun 93 p 6

[Unattributed article: "U.S. Military Strike on Baghdad Embodies Escalatory Move in Democratic Administration's Policy"]

[Excerpts] Washington, AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT—Confrontation has occurred once again between Iraq and the United States for numerous reasons. In addition to the declared reason, namely the Iraqi intelligence's involvement in hatching the abortive attempt to assassinate former U.S. President Bush, the Iraqi regime has continued its attempts to evade the implementation of the UN Security Council resolutions with regard to its compliance with the destruction of all the mass destruction weapons still in its possession and the nuclear and technological substances used to produce them, or with regard to halting torture methods and human rights violations in Iraq, especially in the north and the south. [passage omitted]

The possibilities of a confrontation increased after the statements made by U.S. President Bill Clinton at a press conference in the White House. The U.S. President warned Iraq in "clear and strong" terms about the consequences of its refusal to allow the international inspection team to inspect the sites of missile launching experiments. He said: That (rejection of inspection) will result in serious consequences. And he said that he expected the question to be resolved one way or another in the near future. [passage omitted]

As a result of the Iraqi regime's persistence in its attempts to evade the stipulations of the UN resolutions, and as a result of the failure of all Iraq's endeavors to "improve" its relations with the West, including the attempt made by Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister Tariq 'Aziz at his meeting with the UN secretary general, the clear warning announced by U.S. President Clinton and the U.S. Administration's denial that any change had occurred in its position toward Iraq came as a logical prelude to the final escalation stage represented in the strike launched by U.S. Navy units against the headquarters of Iraqi intelligence the day before yesterday.

China's Li Lanqing Pays Visit, Meets Officials

Meets Saudi Businessman

LD2706141693 Riyadh SPA in English 1233 GMT 27 Jun 93

[Text] Jeddah, June 27, SPA—Li Lanqing, the vice-president of the State's Council in the People's Republic of China, met here last night with a number of Saudi businessmen in the presence of Commerce Minister Dr. Sulayman al-Sulayyim.

Speaking on the occasion, Isma'il Dawood, the president of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry in Jeddah, hoped that the meeting would further enhance bilateral relations between the Kingdom and China.

For his part, Li expressed happiness for meeting the Saudi businessmen and invited them to invest in his country. Following the meeting, Dr. al-Sulayyim sai[d] the meeting had yielded positive results. The meeting was attended by Dr. 'Abd-al-Rahman al-Zamil, the under secretary of the Commerce Ministry, Dr. Khalid 'Abd-al-Ghani, the mayor of Jeddah, and the Chinese ambassador to the Kingdom.

Received by King Fahd

LD2706153093 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1445 GMT 27 Jun 93

[Excerpt] Jeddah, 27 Jun (SPA)—Servant of the Two Holy Mosques King Fahd bin-'Abd al-'Aziz al Sa'ud, may God protect him, received today at his office in al-Salam Palace his excellency the vice premier of the State Council of the People's Republic of China, Mr. Li Lanqing, and his accompanying delegation. [passage omitted]

Leaves Jeddah 27 Jun

LD2706192493 Riyadh Saudi Arabian Television Network in Arabic 1830 GMT 27 Jun 93

[Excerpt] The PRC vice premier and the delegation accompanying him left Jeddah this afternoon following a visit to the Kingdom during which he met with a number of officials. [passage omitted]

Cabinet Calls For Bosnia Cease-Fire

LD2806195493 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1735 GMT 28 Jun 93

[Excerpt] Jeddah, 28 Jun (SPA)—The custodian of the two holy mosques, King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud, chaired the meeting held by the Council of Ministers this afternoon at al-Salam Palace in Jeddah.

In a statement to SPA following the meeting, Information Minister 'Ali al-Sha'ir said that the council first listened to a summary of the reports submitted to his majesty about the most important events of the hour on the Arab arena and on the international scene in general. The council reviewed the latest developments in Bosnia-Herzegovina, where fierce fighting is raging in various cities and villages, resulting in the death or injury of more and more innocent victims, in addition to the continuation of the operations of displacement, forced homelessness, and alienation against the sons of the people of Bosnia-Herzegovina, the destruction of their energies, the plunder of their possessions, and the violation of their dignity at the hands of the Serbs and their bestial crimes.

In this respect, the information minister said that the council renewed today its emphasis on the necessity for an immediate cease-fire, on enabling Bosnia-Herzegovina to enjoy full independence, and on lifting the arms embargo imposed on it so that its people can exercise their legitimate right to self-defense.

The council also appealed to the UN Security Council and the international community, and particularly the European countries, to rapidly intervene to maintain the unity of Bosnia-Herzegovina and the safety of its people and to change the tragic situation of increasing danger and gravity.

The custodian of the two holy mosques informed the council of the outcome of the talks he had with His Excellency Mr. Li Lanqing, PRC vice premier, whom he received yesterday. [passage omitted]

United Arab Emirates

* Expert Delegation Reportedly To Visit Tehran

93P50216A London AL-HAYAH in Arabic 16 Jun 93 p 1

[Text] London—Diplomatic sources yesterday affirmed that a delegation of experts and technicians from the UAE will visit Tehran soon to study the relationship between the two countries, "but it has not determined a date for the trip."

These sources stated to AL-HAYAH that the visit of the delegation of experts will be limited to discovering Iran's points of view on reaching a settlement of the problem of Abu Musa and the Greater and Lesser Tunb Islands by political and diplomatic means. Iran occupied them after the failure of a similar meeting between the two sides in September in Abu Dhabi as a result of Iran's sticking to its stand on the issue.

They said that, in case the expert delegation's visit is successful, it will open the door to a visit to Tehran by Shaykh Hamdan Bin-Zayid Al Nuhayyan, foreign minister of the UAE.

At the beginning of this month, the UAE minister received an invitation to visit Iran from 'Ali Akbar Velayati, the Iranian foreign minister. The message was carried by the Iranian ambassador in Abu Dhabi, Hassan Aminian.

Velayati visited the UAE in May within the framework of a tour that he was taking of the Gulf Cooperation Council countries. The Iranian minister considered his visit to the UAE "most successful." Iran and the UAE announced at the conclusion of Velayati's visit to Abu Dhabi that they desired to continue their contacts to solve the issues concerned and "the problem of the three UAE islands" by peaceful means.

The same sources indicate that the atmosphere between Tehran and Abu Dhabi is clearly improving as a result of the UAE's efforts to cool down the crisis with Iran.

U.S. Letter of Warning, Government Reply Reported

JN2906115293 Baghdad Republic of Iraq Radio Network in Arabic 1043 GMT 29 Jun 93

[Text] The IRAQI NEWS AGENCY has learned that on Sunday, 27 June, Mrs. Madeleine Albright, U.S. permanent representative to the United Nations, visited the residence of the Iraqi permanent UN representative in New York.

Mrs. Albright handed Nizar Hamdun a letter she said was from the highest levels of the U.S. Government, including what she called talking points. She asked that the letter be communicated to the leadership in Iraq.

Following is the text of the U.S. letter:

I am directed to deliver this letter from the highest levels of the U.S. Government. Following a thorough investigation, the United States has come to the conclusion that Iraq planned and tried to carry out an attempt to assassinate former U.S. President Bush during a visit to Kuwait earlier this year.

The United States considers the attempt to assassinate President Bush a direct attack which requires a direct reply. The action just carried out by U.S. Armed Forces is fully justified under Article 51 of the UN Charter.

I am directed to tell you clearly that any attempt by Iraq to reply to our actions in a way jeopardizing the life of U.S. citizens or U.S. interests anywhere in the world, or threatening the security of our friends, allies or UN personnel or other international employees in Iraq, or that could lead to more suppression of the Iraqi people, will be faced with an immediate, comprehensive reply.

I want to warn you very clearly against taking any measure against Kenneth Becky, a sick man who must be released immediately. Iraq should not think that it can violate the rules of international conduct and the requirements of the international community without paying a heavy price in return.

In this regard, we are ready, along with our partners in the coalition, to take any necessary steps in case Iraq fails to reply satisfactorily to the statement issued by the president of the Security Council on 18 June, stating that Iraq had committed a physical breach of Security Council Resolution 687, which ended the Gulf war and established the cease-fire terms.

Iraq should take seriously the warning of the Security Council president of serious consequences resulting from Iraq's failure to fulfill its obligations under Resolution 687 and other relevant Security Council resolutions.

After studying the contents of the U.S. letter, Nizar Hamdun, Iraq's permanent UN representative, was asked to meet with Mrs. Albright, U.S. UN representative. Nizar Hamdun met with her on the evening of the same day, Sunday, 27 June 1993, and handed her talking points representing Iraq's reply to the U.S. letter. The following is the text of the letter of the Republic of Iraq:

I have received from the highest echelons in the Iraqi Government the following reply to the talking points I received from you, which I was directed to communicate to you:

Iraq considers the missile attack on Baghdad, in which some civilians, including children and women, were martyred or wounded a hostile, terrorist, and cowardly act. Iraq categorically rejects the false accusations leveled by the United States and used as a pretext to justify this aggression. All human and heavenly laws state that a defendant is innocent until proven guilty by a just, neutral, and credible side. In the propaganda you are spreading in the world, you claim to care for human rights and adhere to the world declaration of human rights. Nevertheless, you carried out this aggression on the basis of allegations made by you and fabricated by the Kuwaiti rulers, who enjoy no world credibility whatsoever, and without proving your accusations in a neutral and objective manner.

We emphasize to the entire world that you do not possess credible evidence proving your fabricated accusations. This behavior by you places the international community under the law of the jungle. Such an unjustified hostile behavior opens the door for anyone who wants to attack others to undertake such aggression without needing to prove the soundness of his case. This behavior will also give anyone afflicted by harm and aggression the right to act according to his own convictions and abilities. By behaving in this manner and by this terrorist, aggressive, and cowardly action, you are proceeding from the position of brute force which imposes its will on others and from the law of ability and opportunity. This law, which you devised, is the same that will be used against you. With the help of Almighty God, the day will come when this will be realized on the level of the entire world. You bear the responsibility of returning the world to the method of brute force as was the situation during the Middle Ages and the colonialist era.

What is starkly paradoxical in this behavior of yours is that at a time when you fail to produce conclusive evidence about an alleged attempt against a person who sustained no harm, you today killed innocent women and children. Such a crime is a mass murder and a form of genocide. We advise you not to go too far along this road which led the United States to the lowest of levels and toppled what remained of its propagated good name. You are demanded to reconsider this policy, which abounds with haughtiness, arrogance, and aggression, and formulate new relations with the world, including the Iraqi people, based on peace, mutual respect, and respect for human laws.

This situation makes us conclude with clear minds proceeding from deep faith in God's laws that your

conduct will only bring your country shame and disgrace and lead to weakness and deterioration in your brute force.

All experiments in history demonstrate that tyrants cannot continue their tyranny and that God's justice eventually triumphs over those who possess tyrannical powers. The United States, which launches propaganda wars against the Third World countries under the pretext that they possess this or that weapon while trying to give the impression that these countries might use these weapons in an irresponsible way, threatening peace and stability in the world, is the one which is using its arsenal for killing and destruction and is shaking security and stability in the world by such criminal actions.

You are issuing warnings about possible reactions to your cowardly terrorist action. You must know that Iraq is part of the Arab nation and the Islamic world, that it is part of the human community. All of these people view with contempt and anger your cowardly terrorist actions. Iraq cannot be a policeman to protect falsehood and the killers of women and children who are blindly using unjust force. You alone bear the responsibility for the consequences of your crimes against the peoples of the world, including the Iraqi people.

Your claim that your behavior is justified by Article 51 of the UN Charter is groundless. The writers of the UN Charter did not imagine to be possible such terrorist actions of aggression against peoples of the world as the ones you are committing. What you carried out on 27 June was a blatant aggression, a violation of the UN Charter, and an act of terrorism intended to terrorize the Iraqi people and leadership. The Iraqi people and leadership will not fear such cowardly acts. They have gained enough experience and immunity to remain steadfast in the face of aggression, relying on Almighty God and the will of right and justice which must triumph over the oppressors.

While condemning and denouncing this aggression, Iraq preserves its full right vis-a-vis this unjustifiable aggression. The Iraqi people reject your statements about them and your claim of trusteeship over them. You have killed the Iraqis by missiles and bombs in the north, south, and center, and there is hardly a spot in Iraq that was not hit by your missiles. You have killed Iraqis from various communities and strata. You have killed women, children, old people, workers, artists, and technicians, and simple people. Lastly, your hands have been stained with the blood of the Iraqi artists in your latest unjust raid.

The Iraqi people hold your claims and actions in contempt.

Radio Details 27 Jun Security Council Session

JN2806180493 Baghdad Republic of Iraq Radio Network in Arabic 1410 GMT 28 Jun 93

[Text] The UN Security Council last night, 27 June, New York time, 0010 on 28 June Baghdad time, held an official session at the request of the United States. The U.S. permanent envoy, Madelene Albright, sent a letter to the Council president, the Spanish envoy, in which she asked for an emergency UN Security Council session.

The Council agreed on the proceedings of the official session, according to which the U.S. envoy would address the session first, to be followed by the Iraqi envoy, and then only by other members of the Council.

In her speech to the Council, the U.S. envoy said that she came to the Council to present a serious issue, the attempted assassination of the former U.S. president by the intelligence services of the Government of Iraq. She said: The attempt against Bush during his visit to Kuwait in April constitutes an attack against the United States. She said she would not ask the Council to take any measures, but said Council members should consider any attempt against a former president as an attack against the country, requiring a response.

The U.S. envoy presented her evidence, including photographs of a booby-trapped Toyota Land Cruiser which she says was smuggled into Kuwait on 13 April, as well as photographs of cubes of explosives, wires, and timers.

The U.S. envoy then spoke about the Federal Bureau of Investigation's interrogation of the 16 suspects in Kuwait. She said: According to the available evidence, U.S. intelligence agencies are certain that the Iraqi Government at its highest level instructed its intelligence agencies to try to assassinate Bush and that constitutes an attack against the United States which requires a direct U.S. response.

She said: The U.S. response was direct and in line with Article 51 of the UN Charter which stipulates the right to legitimate self-defense. The response sought to destroy a target directly linked with the attempt against Bush.

The Council president then gave the floor to Nizar Hamdun, Iraq's permanent envoy to the United Nations. The Iraqi envoy stressed that the new U.S. aggression is one chapter in a hostile U.S. policy toward Iraq which seeks to control the region and plunder its resources.

Hamdun said: Through this aggression, the United States has breached its responsibilities as a UN Security Council permanent member and has violated the norms of international law and the UN Charter.

He added: The new aggression is a clear evidence of the hegemonistic nature of U.S. policy and an act that shows that one of the considerations underlying the U.S. stand is the search for an alleged victory to be used for domestic and external political ends.

Hamdun warned the UN Security Council against allowing some of its members to confiscate the Council's role in preserving world peace and security. He said this will produce a very serious approach threatening the

security and peace of the entire world. The whole world would face unprecedented extortion and terrorism.

Hamdun said Iraq calls on the UN Security Council to protect Iraq's rights as a founding member of the United Nations. He called for condemnation of this aggression and avoidance of its recurrence.

In his speech to the UN Security Council, Ambassador Nizar Hamdun said many civilians were martyred when several of the U.S. missiles fell on their homes near Iraqi intelligence headquarters. Many others, including women and children, were wounded. The victims, he said, included the well-known Iraqi painter Layla al-'Attar and her husband, while her children were injured. Houses and civilian establishments sustained heavy damages, he added.

Ambassador Hamdun said: The United States sought to justify the aggression with the alleged story about the attempt to assassinate former U.S. President George Bush, a story fabricated by the Kuwaiti regime for known reasons that are linked to its role against Iraq and in order to harm and inflict damage upon Iraq.

Hamdun explained that some organs within the U.S. Administration found in this a pretext they could use to justify the aggression against Iraq and to continue their policy against Iraq and its role in the region.

Ambassador Hamdun stressed that the Iraqi Government has denied and denies today any role regarding this alleged attempt and defies all parties to provide clear evidence to a third impartial party for consideration.

Hamdun said the U.S. Government accused Iraq, sentenced it, and carried out this sentence without furnishing evidence against it, and without asking it to clarify its position. This should highlight the real aims and intentions of the aggression.

He explained that the rules of international law the United States claims to respect give it no right to overlook the principle of due process of law, in addition to stipulations of the principles of the UN Charter.

The French envoy then spoke and voiced his government's understanding of the U.S. action. He, however, pointed out that France's policy toward Iraq opposes its instability, division, and threats to its territorial integrity, and that France supports UN action to force Iraq to implement Security Council resolutions.

The Japanese ambassador spoke and supported the UN [as heard] envoy's position.

Cape Verde's deputy representative, the coordinator of the Nonaligned Group on the Council, spoke on behalf of the Nonaligned Group and said the Group authorized him to voice its concern about all forms of terrorism. The Group, he said, urges all parties to show self-restraint, including those who have a special responsibility to protect world peace and security. He said the use of force should be avoided in the interest of peace and security in the region. The Group, he said, supports the implementation of UN Security Council resolutions without discrimination, and that the governments and peoples of the Group member states are very sorry for the loss of life that resulted from the attack against the Iraqi intelligence headquarters in Baghdad.

Brazil's envoy said his government opposes all forms of world terrorism and regrets the loss of life.

Hungary's ambassador supported the United States.

The People's Republic of China's ambassador said China's stand against terrorism is well known. He said China is concerned about yesterday's events and about the civilian victims. China, he added, believes differences between states should be resolved through negotiations and peaceful means, and that China would not support any measure that would heighten tension, including the use of force. He said China hopes the two parties would show self-restraint to prevent any deterioration.

The British ambassador said his country supports the U.S. position, and so did the Russian, New Zealand, and Spanish ambassadors.

After the members finished their speeches, the UN Security Council president said that since no Council member had asked for any measures, the Council had therefore concluded its review of the subject and the session adjourned.

Ambassador Nizar Hamdun, Republic of Iraq's permanent representative, dismissed with ridicule the five photographs shown by U.S. Ambassador Madeleine Albright to the Security Council Sunday.

Following the UN Security Council session, Ambassador Hamdun told reporters the five photographs did not impress those who saw them at the Security Council. He noted that many Security Council members had never seen such equipment before and that it was difficult for them to judge its authenticity through photographs. He added that no independent juridical authority would base its judgment simply on photographs. The U.S. presentation of the photographs was not convincing in this regard.

Ambassador Hamdun said it is regrettable that the United States alone had handled this matter until the very end and then had recourse to the Security Council. This is abnormal behavior, he said.

Ambassador Hamdun affirmed that the five photographs did not present any evidence about Iraq's alleged role. Photographs of a vehicle and some equipment would not make any independent judge pass judgment on the other party. The United States, in addition, cannot be considered an impartial party in relation to Iraq.

He said: Under this prevailing atmosphere, I expect that some quarters and individuals in the U.S. Administration have certain interests they seek to achieve, and may try to escalate the situation against Iraq.

Ambassador Nizar Hamdun explained that Iraq, the Arabs, the Islamic world, and the Third World would have preferred to see an impartial party review the so-called evidence and ask Iraq about its opinion. However, it is too late now after they fired 23 missiles at Baghdad, which has four million inhabitants.

He said: Latest reports from Baghdad say eight people were killed and tens of people injured, some very critically, which may mean an increase in the number of civilian victims.

Observers at the United Nations say the outcome of the Council's discussion of this issue shows that the United States has failed in getting all Security Council members to approve its latest aggression against Iraq.

A BBC correspondent said the U.S. action benefited Iraqi media in the U.S. and European arenas. UN sources say that despite the fact that the United States contacted the Security Council member states and its allies to issue statements supporting the U.S. action, they have noticed that the U.S. presentation of the evidence was not decisive and that the photographs shown by the U.S. envoy did not reveal any interesting details.

Official Calls for U.S., Other Interests 'To Be Hit'

JN2906111893 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1100 GMT 29 Jun 93

[Text] An Iraqi Ministry of Culture and Information official has called for American, Israeli, Kuwaiti, and Saudi interests, wherever they are, to be hit in retaliation for last Sunday's [27 June] U.S. attack on Baghdad. The Americans, he added, only understand the language of force.

Vice President Says U.S. 'Number One' Terrorist State

JN2806153093 Baghdad Republic of Iraq Radio Network in Arabic 1400 GMT 28 Jun 93

[Excerpt] Taha Yasin Ramadan, vice president and Revolution Command Council member, has denounced the U.S. Administrations' policy of accusing states of terrorism, stressing that America is the number one hostile and terrorist state in the world. He added that the methods of deception and lies used by America through the imperialist news media will never help it deceive the world public with the slogans of freedom, democracy, and human rights, especially since its continued aggression against Iraq constitutes the highest degree of international terrorism, violence, and arrogance.

During a meeting with Taysir al-Zibri, first secretary of the Jordanian People's Democratic Party, and the delegation accompanying him, the vice president said that the U.S. Administrations' economic and military aggressions against peoples and interference in their internal affairs constitute a serious precedent in international politics and a flagrant defiance of international law, norms, and legitimacy. [passage omitted]

Minister Says Clinton 'Weakest Person on Earth'

JN2906102693 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 29 Jun 93 p 25

[Interview with Information Minister Hamid Yusuf Hammadi by correspondent 'Adil Ibrahim in Baghdad; date not given]

[Text] [Ibrahim] U.S. officials say that the raid was in retaliation for the attempt to assassinate Bush in Kuwait by elements recruited by the Iraqi intelligence. How do you view such claims?

[Hammadi] Clinton's raid on Iraq came after the great decline in his popularity on the domestic scene. U.S. public opinion, media, and politicians were talking about Clinton's weakness, hesitation, and indecisiveness. This is similar to what they said about Bush in the last days of his presidency, which he ended with a similar missile raid on Baghdad on 17 January.

So the raid on 27 June was intended to weaken the charge that the Democrats were weak and indecisive, and since the Republicans failed to topple the regime in Baghdad—despite 43 days of carpet bombing, continued blockade, and diplomatic isolation—the two parties would now be even.

We should also not forget that Clinton has gotten nowhere in Somalia and failed to arrest Aidid.

As you also notice, there was no large-scale media campaign to justify this new aggression, as happened in the past, because Clinton wants to appear more capable than Bush, striking whenever and wherever he wants, and then asking the United Nations or the Security Council to cloak his actions with so-called international legitimacy.

Regardless of the motives, analyses, and domestic situation in the United States, as well as Clinton's failure to fulfill his preelection promises, since he is unable to face those who have a vested interest and are harmed when the deteriorating economy is truly redressed, we have to note the following facts:

1. Iraq's steadfastness and its ability to cope with the blockade and reorganize its economic administration, taking into consideration the possibility that it might be a long time before it can export its oil again, has enabled it to have the stamina to wait for a long time.

2. Diplomatic openness toward Iraq is starting to grow, especially by some U.S. allies.

3. The true political balance of power in the region is tilting in favor of Iraq, at least in the near future.

4. The so-called opposition forces abroad do not stand a chance.

We therefore view the recent U.S. raid and any other possible raids as simply an uproar preceding retreat from a certain position. This is because they have tried everything against Iraq. The only thing left is the atomic bomb.

[Ibrahim] The recent U.S. missile attack was not preceded by full-blown propaganda campaign to justify the aggression. What are the reasons for this raid and do you expect other raids?

[Hammadi] Let me make one thing clear. We did not ask anyone to assassinate former President Bush. We categorically deny this, not out of our respect for him but because it never happened.

There is also a rule in the judicial system adopted by all civilized nations saying that the accused is innocent until proven guilty. The trial in Kuwait is still continuing, and it was reported that it will last for two months before a verdict is issued.

So how can the U.S. Administration give itself the authority to issue and carry out the verdict? And why this disregard for the Security Council, by asking it to endorse the verdict after carrying out the raid on Baghdad. Whatever happened to international law and the UN Charter?

We believe that all of this will not make Clinton stronger. We think he is now the weakest person on earth, because the force which does not derive its legitimacy from justice and wisdom is a blind, reckless force.

Air Defense Commander Comments on Downing Missiles

JN2806132093 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1005 GMT 28 Jun 93

[Text] Baghdad, 28 Jun (INA)—Staff Major General Mahdi Salih Fathi, commander of the Air Defense, has stated that the Iraqi Air Defenses shot down several long-range Tomahawk cruise missiles.

In an interview with AL-QADISIYAH today, the Air Defense commander said: We are very proud of the heroes of the second al-Qadisiyah and the immortal Mother of Battles, and we were fully confident in the capability of the fighters—officers and NCO's to shoot down such missiles about which the enemy boasts.

The commander added the new missile attack by the U.S. Administration against residental quarters and civilians denotes the hysterical state the enemies experience as a result of the steadfastness of the Iraqi people and their rallying around their leader.

The Iraqi military commander affirmed that what the enemy is doing, whether by stepping up the embargo or carrying out a direct military attack, makes them more determined for confrontation and for the attainment of victory instead of dampening the determination of the Iraqis.

The commander said this new U.S. aggression is one of the many chains in the ongoing conspiracy against Iraq, a conspiracy that uses various pretexts to inhibit the steadfastness of the Iraqi people and their lofty army.

He stated that it is not strange that the traitorous regimes like the al Sa'ud and al-Sabah cliques allow the firing of the U.S. missiles of aggression against Iraq.

INA Reviews Missile Strike Aftermath in al-Mansur

JN2806184393 Baghdad INA in English 1400 GMT 28 Jun 93

[Text] Baghdad, June 28, INA—Tens of people were severely injured and many killed during a U.S. missile attack launched at two o'clock in the morning of Sunday on al-Mansur area in Baghdad.

However, the number of dead and wounded people is not known yet. "So far, four of the wounded people died" a doctor at a nearby hospital said.

The unexpected cruise attack damaged the Iraqi Intelligence Department premises and turned about dozen houses into ruins.

Among the victims are the famous Iraqi painter Layla al-'Attar, 49, and her husband 'Abd-al-Khaliq 'Abd-al-Amir, 64. Her daughter Rim and her son Haydar were severely injured and are now treated at al-Yarmuk Hospital with the other wounded people. Haydar suffers from fractured bones while Rim has a cerebral concussion and wounds in her head and eyes.

Layla al-'Attar's house was damaged before in 1991 during the U.S.-led aggression. She had moved with her family to her sister's house which was reduced into rubble by the cruise missiles on Sunday.

A deep crater could be seen now instead of the house. Inside the crater were Layla al-'Attar's private car and her paintings.

The rescue teams have picked up some of her paintings and a small TV set from under the ruins but they could not find her body until noon on Sunday.

One of the survivors said that he unconsciously hurried to the street once he heard the deafening explosions.

He was not alone. He saw many families running out of their houses creating a scene of panic in the street.

A number of foreign and Iraqi journalists went to the site soon after the attack. They saw smoke from what

appeared to be a huge fire in al-Mansur residential district which is three kilometres west of the centre of the city.

in the main street of al-Mansur area, parts of cruise missiles could be seen scattered in the gardens and garages of houses.

One of the damaged cars was thrown away by the blast and was damaged completely.

The car belonged to Muhammad Rashid, a young man who said that when the sirens wailed, he didn't care because he thought that it was just a siren drill and that there was no problem.

"But, the terrible sounds of explosion made me run with my family to the bathroom which is the smallest room in the house. When the explosions stopped, we got out to see pieces of glasses and wood everywhere. Thanks God, nobody of the 14-member family was hurt" he commented.

Mahir Hashim al-Salman, whose house has survived the missiles, said he was sleeping when the attack shaked his house.

He jumped from his bed and went to the room where his children were sleeping too.

"My child has not stopped crying until now because he has learnt that his friend is killed by the missiles," he added.

Salim Hamid, a lawyer, said his house which is next door to the Venezuelan Embassy is partly damaged and his two children are still fearful and trembling.

A woman who lives in the area came to me and seemed to want to talk. With tears in her eyes, she said, "I don't understand what is happening and I want to ask those who committed this crime: Why civilian people? What have they done?"

The bodies of children, women, and men were until Sunday evening being rescued from debris of houses.

Kurdish Party 'Vehemently' Denounces Raid

JN2806123193 Baghdad Republic of Iraq Radio Network in Arabic 1030 GMT 28 Jun 93

[Text] The Kurdistan Democratic Party [KDP] has vehemently denounced the heinous crime committed by the United States against residential areas in Baghdad at dawn yesterday.

In a statement issued by its Political Bureau, the KDP said the new U.S. aggression was not strange, coming from an administration that has reached an abyss after having yielded completely to world Zionism, and after a group of traitors among the Saudi and Kuwaiti rulers cooperated with it.

The statement explained that by continuing its aggression, the Clinton administration seeks to impose its hegemony on the Iraqi people after they heroically confronted the treacherous 30-state aggression and did not bow their heads to all forms of treachery and treason and to the unjust siege. Moreover, the Iraqi people did not refrain from continuing the struggle and jihad and rallying around their inspired snd struggler leader Saddam Husayn.

The KDP urged all honorable men in the world to denounce this heinous crime and halt the U.S. tyranny.

PUK Radio Reports 'Maximum Alert,' Detentions

NC2806182293 (Clandestine) Voice of the People of Kurdistan in Arabic 1722 GMT 28 Jun 93

[Text] Our special correspondent in Baghdad reports that at 0200 on Sunday [27 June], and during the missile attack on its intelligence headquarters, the Iraqi regime stormed the quarters of al-Thawrah, al-Hurriyah al-Ula, al-Hurriyah al-Thaniyah, al-Hurriyah al-Thalithah, al-Sha'b, al-Kadhimiyah, al-Ghazaliyah, al-Amin al-Thaniyah, al-Shu'lah, and al-Mashtal with units from the emergency forces, the special security forces, and the Republican Guard. Our correspondent says the regime forces arrested many youths to prevent them from carrying out a popular action against the head of the ruling regime in Baghdad. Our correspondent adds that these forces remained in their locations until 1300 yesterday. The regime released the youths, who were detained in al-Fadaliyah prison, after threatening them not to discuss their detention.

Our correspondent also explains that the situation in Baghdad remains very tense. The regime's forces are still on maximum alert. A meeting of senior Iraqi regime intelligence officials was held at 2400 on Saturday, shortly before the missile attack. They discussed the possibility of Baghdad coming under an imminent attack. Half of the participants in the meeting remained in the building after it ended.

Our correspondent says joy and happiness prevail among Baghdad's citizens, who feel satisfied with the missile attack on the Iraqi regime's intelligence headquarters.

Media Analyze U.S. 'Unjust Aggression,' Motives

'Terrorism' Will Lead to Collapse

JN2806131493 Baghdad Republic of Iraq Radio Network in Arabic 0720 GMT 28 Jun 93

[28 June AL-QADISIYAH editorial: "The Future Is Ours"]

[Text] By resisting the U.S. idol and standing fast against its unjust aggression, we have foiled its objectives and exposed its aggressive logic because this logic departed from justice and adhered to brute force. The U.S. idol

found in its aggression an opportunity to achieve its low objectives. It also continued to besiege Iraq in the wake of both the battle and the military aggression. Bush used force again in the futile second aggression, but his endeavors failed and Iraq emerged steadfast and victorious.

Afterward, Zionism and its agents did their best to push Clinton and his administration in the same direction as Bush. This is because they want to convince the United States and Western public opinion that the policy of destruction and continued strikes at Iraq is a sound policy. They also seek to reassure their agents that they support them and are not far from them. This time, they adhered to the feeble, silly pretext that Iraq tried to assassinate Bush in the Kuwait Region in April. So they fired Tomahawk missiles at residential areas and at the Iraqi intelligence headquarters in Baghdad, killing or wounding innocent children and women such as creative artist Layla al-'Attar.

Using the same logic of those who boast about human rights and international law, we better wonder: Does this law permit the killing of innocent people on the pretext that a person or a group of persons was accused of trying to assassinate Bush, given that no verdicts have thus far been issued against these persons? Those who boast about human rights know, just as we know, that a defendant remains innocent until he is proven guilty. Did they find in the innocence of Iraqi children and in the brush of artist Layla al-'Attar anything that can threaten human rights in the United States? Or is it the fact that they still believe in brute force and in the need to find a pretext designed to threaten Iraq's sovereignty? After they failed, however, and after it was shown that Clinton and his administration have adopted weak positions on Bosnia-Herzegovina, Cambodia, and Somalia, they wish to withdraw from the confrontation with Iraq just as they withdrew from the confrontation with Somalia under the cover of smoke bellowing from the treacherous missile strikes. These strikes are meant to hint that the deterrent capability is available at all times.

However, they have forgotten that the steadfast and strong Iraq—which fought in defense of its principles, offered generous sacrifices and chaste blood, and established its splendid present—has done all this in order to open the doors widely to the future and not to close them in isolation. Therefore, Iraq will not yield to the so-called cameras' crisis. Iraq has gained experience in all types of threats. Moreover, after all the missiles and bombs of the aggressive alliance flew over the heads of the heroic Iraqis and the Iraqis did not bend, but continued to raise their heads high. Hence, how can Iraq yield to some missile strikes?

He who holds the keys to the future in both his hands is strong and able, but he who wagers on brute force and looks for opportunities to use it is weak. He will find himself a clear target and easy prey for whoever takes the opportunity to use force—an opportunity that will inevitably exist. Hence, the proud Iraqis who built their impregnable wall with the determination of their historic leader Saddam Husayn and with their own will, cannot allow the treacherous enemy to break any brick in this wall, which was built with the Iraqis' sweat and with the blood of their righteous martyrs.

As for the enemies, they are descending into the abyss after the failure of their criminal aggressive actions and in the wake of their futile policy of imposing an unjust siege and political isolation. This isolation is pursued by various means, including using the funds they have collected from their henchmen as temptation. They have also been using terrorism, whose pillars have begun to deteriorate on the path of total collapse. Consequently, collapse will be their lot, whereas the brilliant future will be our lot.

Saddam's Steadfastness Praised

JN2806141893 Baghdad Republic of Iraq Radio Network in Arabic 0945 GMT 28 Jun 93

[28 June AL-JUMHURIYAH editorial: "The Humanitarian Nature of the Leader and the Recent Aggression"]

[Text] In a desperate attempt to justify its odious crime against civilians in Iraq, the U.S. Administration has said the crime was a reply to accusations that Iraq had planned to assassinate former U.S. President George Bush. But if you scrutinize the dimensions and results of the crime, you will discover completely different facts.

Many men, women and children were martyred as a result of the U.S. Administration's barbarism. The 23 cruise missiles, designed to be used in a third world war with a major power, destroyed many homes. Did the United States fire this many missiles just to reply to an as yet unsubstantiated accusation?

We are forced, therefore, to examine the real motives of the U.S. There are many such motives. Today, we will only discuss the most prominent of these motives, the one dealing with the humanitarian nature of leader President Saddam Husayn. This is a nature the Iraqis have come to know since 1959. The world began to gradually know it with the successive nationalization and liberation battles. This knowledge was prominently highlighted in the glorious Mother of Battles when the entire world came to know the real humanitarian nature of President Leader Saddam Husayn.

The Iraqis have known the leader president as a staunch struggler, deeply and unambiguously committed to noble principles and pan-Arab objectives. They know he has sustained much pain and made many sacrifices for the sake of these principles and objectives. He demonstrated the unique patience and fortitude that enabled the revolution command to overcome the perilous stages, attain the people's objectives, and score historic victories.

This picture of the boundless steadfastness and heroism of our leader was presented to the world during all the chapters of the Mother of Battles. This irrefutably proves

that the era of grovelling and capitulation in the world has witnessed the manifestation of Iraqi heroism, embodied in the great principled determination to refuse to give in to the U.S. empire of evil.

The leader president rejected all types and forms of blackmail and enticements and ridiculed the threat of force made by the most powerful country in the world, force used to make Iraq give up its sovereignty, independence, and principles.

Thus, he became the worldwide symbol of steadfastness and faithfulness to principles. This has baffled the West and its intellectuals who failed to understand the meaning of the steadfastness and heroism of a small country opposed to the empire of evil with a president who has lost his balance. It thus started hitting young and old. Everybody bowed before the storm, except for Saddam Husayn and his Iraq, which remained steadfast as a towering mountain, unruffled by earthquakes and unbending before storms.

Now, America is trying to close the door to Iraq's future by using the issue of monitoring cameras in factories. It knows this subject will raise new issues and open new files because the demand to set up cameras today is aimed at undermining Iraq's sovereignty tomorrow.

Today, they want to use cameras to monitor what is going on in our factories. Tomorrow, they will demand to use cameras to see what is going on in our departments. The day after tomorrow, they will insist on using cameras to know what is going on in our homes.

This is a phased plan to undermine and cancel Iraq's sovereignty. This method is sure to close the door to Iraq's future and deprive generations of freedom and independence. America knows that the principled and militant nature of leader Saddam Husayn, which has become the nature of all Iraqis, will be the main obstacle to the plan to colonize Iraq. So, America and Zionism began new efforts to terrorize Iraq and to force it to bow to the blackmail of force. This last strike might be a link in the chain of this plan.

By this new foolishness, America has proven it does not grasp the lessons of the Mother of Battles, foremost of which is that President Saddam Husayn is not the kind of leader who is swayed from his principles by difficulty, danger, or challenge. His commitment to his principles and his values increases when the challenge increases and when danger loom.

Saddam Husayn's Iraq overcame the greatest and most dangerous military threat faced by any people in history during the military chapter of the Mother of Battles. The current and future challenges will be nothing more than U.S. foolishness and U.S. crimes against humanity. They will not shake Iraq and the steadfastness of its people. These attempts will emphasize the absolute failure of America, its plans, and its cowardly and inhuman actions.

Will America reconsider its position and understand that all Iraqis have learned from the humanitarian nature of their leader and are indifferent to threat, death and challenge? Can America understand the reasons for the Iraqi people's resurgence after the strikes they received—strikes that would have torn apart any other people, including the U.S. people, in a few weeks had they been exposed to the same strikes?

Kuwait Rulers Share Responsibility

JN2806155993 Baghdad Republic of Iraq Radio Network in Arabic 1105 GMT 28 Jun 93

[28 June AL-THAWRAH editorial: "A Criminal, Terrorist Act"]

[Text] In a clear demonstration of arrogance, intransigence, and disregard of international law, the United States launched a new criminal aggression against our people and country without any legal or international excuse or cover. U.S. forces fired cruise missiles at proud and lofty Baghdad, hitting the al-Mansur and al-Ma'mun areas. As a result, several defenseless children, women, and old men were martyred. A larger number were wounded, and citizens' homes and other civilian sites were heavily damaged.

The Clinton administration cannot—despite all its efforts and attempts to justify its aggressive and terrorist act—wipe out the fact that it gave itself a right to try Iraq on a false and fabricated charge that this administration itself denied and was skeptical about. This administration issued its judgment on Iraq without even bothering to listen to its opinion about the charge leveled against it. This administration carried out the judgment it issued based on the unfounded pretext of an alleged attempt to assassinate Bush fabricated by the mean rulers imposed on Kuwait. Thus, the United States assumed the role of world policeman with all the terrorism, jungle law domination and the return to loathsome old colonialism that this role entails.

This cowardly rancorous act, committed by the Clinton administration, reiterates that criminally aggressive behavior toward nations is a prominent feature of U.S. international policy. This is particularly so after the United States imposed its dictatorship and unilateral hegemony over world trends and nations. Under the false and blatant pretext of presenting relief aid and restoring hope to the Somali people, U.S. forces invaded and occupied Somalia. These forces are now distributing missiles, shells, and bullets to the defenseless Somali people instead of food and medicine.

Although the new treacherous aggression is a continuation of the American-Atlantic aggression that began on 17 January 1991—a barbaric aggression against the national awakening plan, represented by Iraq, that was designed to rearrange the regional situation in order to impose an American-Zionist hegemony over trends in this region and to plunder its resources—the mean rulers

imposed on Kuwait, who fabricated the story of assassinating Bush, are, before others, responsible for every drop of Iraqi blood that was shed yesterday. Every Iraqi is aware that those despicable people continue their conspiratorial role in the scheme aimed against Iraq to harm its steadfast people.

If the U.S. media machine, which is controlled by world Zionism, instigated the new U.S. Administration against Iraq by describing Clinton as a weak person, it will be amply clear that Clinton has committed his sinful aggression to dismiss this description and to prove he is not something less than his predecessor. However, his hideous crime, represented by killing defenseless women, children, and civilians—the crime about which he boasted and tried, in vain, to justify—has proved the opposite and showed that Clinton is far weaker and less competent than the description given to him by the U.S. media. Is there a person who is weaker and less competent than the president of a superpower who kills women and children and demolishes homes on top of their defenseless inhabitants?

World nations and their honest and militant forces are called upon to shoulder their responsibilities, not only in condemning this blatant aggressive American aggression, exposing and revealing its evil objectives, but also in resisting and confronting it. This is particularly so because this course does not threaten the stability and security of one or two countries, but threatens world security and stability. Remaining silent and ignoring what is being done by the imperialists and their agents, and remaining silent and showing indifference to what is taking place, will definitely escalate and expand U.S. arrogance in a way that will threaten the independence, unity, and sovereignty of all states and will expose the entire international community to blackmail and terrorism on a scale unseen in history, as reiterated by the statement issued by the Revolution Command Council yesterday.

Lofty Iraq, which remained steadfast in the face of the strongest and most brutal war machine, and which demonstrated extraordinary capability to survive aggression, was not shaken by 110,000 raids and 88,000 tons of shells and bombs. This Iraq, which sets an example of challenging and confronting arrogance, cannot be shaken by a new missile aggression.

Certainly, the violent popular anger expressed by our mujahid masses does not represent the entire retaliation of the Iraqis to the new cowardly American aggression. Their retaliation will be more construction, jihad, patience, confrontation, steadfastness, and insistence on adhering to the leadership of struggler Comrade Saddam Husayn, the symbol of their will, dignity, and firm national unity. Let the lowly be accursed.

Clinton Called 'Duplicate' of Bush

JN2806134793 Baghdad Republic of Iraq Radio Network in Arabic 1134 GMT 28 Jun 93

[Unscheduled unattributed commentary]

[Text] In a treacherous, aggressive act, the U.S. Administration has once again revealed the nature of its policy, which is deep-rooted in aggression and which ignores even the most basic humanitarian value and insists on antagonizing the people of Iraq and committing frequent crimes against them.

With this cowardly act, the opportunist Clinton dropped all masks covering the ugly face the U.S. Administration and proved that he is a duplicate of the major criminal, George Bush.

With this foolish act, the current U.S. Administration has exposed itself and strengthened the world public opinion's view that it is a world policeman that knows only the language of the nightstick. This cowardly, treacherous act will not terrorize the people of Iraq, the people of perseverance and steadfastness, the people who fought the colonialists with sickles and forks because they are advocates of a just cause and have rights.

This treacherous aggression has failed like all previous hostile chapters. All future chapters of pressure and aggression will also fail.

It is an ugly crime, associated with a clear failure and a fatal disappointment for the enemies and gamblers.

Change in U.S. Policy 'Hollow Bubble'

JN2806194293 Baghdad INA in English 1220 GMT 28 Jun 93

[Excerpts] Baghdad, June 28, INA—The cowardly act implemented by Clinton's administration against Iraq confirms once again that the hostile criminal conduct towards peoples is the distinguishing characteristic of the American international policy particularly after the United States had imposed its dictatorship and individual control on the world and its peoples destinies, AL-THAWRAH daily editorialized today. [passage omitted]

As for THE BAGHDAD OBSERVER it has said in its editorial today that ordering the new missile attack on Baghdad on early Sunday morning did not take American President Bill Clinton more than just appearing on television to tell the public that the FBI had "compelling evidence" linking Iraqi Intelligence Service to the life attempt on former U.S. President George Bush, Hence, Clinton went on to say, that a prompt American action was necessary to protect American "sovereignty".

Though his announcement left many of the TV viewers bewildered, Bill Clinton ended his brief message and handed over the microphone to his Defence Secretary and Joint Chief of Staff with a sigh of relief that the

manoeuvere could well boost his plummeting popularity. He must have assured himself that in the eyes of the Americans he is no more the weak indecisive Clinton.

However, for those who could see things more objectively, the helpless Clinton certainly had his own motives. For a president whose military credentials are shaky, another missile attack could be presented as evidence of resolute. [sentence as received]

Clinton has disappointingly put in the mantle of his notorious preecessor. Thus, expectations of a long-awaited change in American policy have been a hollow bubble.

The only change Clinton has shown is that this time there has been a bolder and more open defiance of the international community. The U.S. Administration has not this time as before bothered to secure the Security Council backing to the move before unleashing America's Tomahawk cruise missiles on Baghdad. Moreover, this time the U.S. did not, as it did before, resort to "Iraq's non-compliance with the Security Council resolutions" to vainly add justification to the missile attack.

And now as the U.N. Security Council is preparing to consider later on Sunday the "compelling evidence" that trace Iraqi links to the alleged assassination attempt, and then to "study" whether to rubber stamp the move, speculating any opposition to the onslaught would be pointless. Britain, on the other hand, was quick to announce that the murder of Iraqi civilians was "entirely justified".

For Clinton, the only way to "protect American sovereignty put at risk" is through wrecking civilian districts in Iraq and killing innocent people, a procedure that sounds not much different than that pursued by George Bush in the very near yesterday.

American sovereignty is being threatened, not by Iraq but by American policy-makers themselves.

It will be pure naiveness to assume that the course of aggression against Iraq followed by the U.S. and its allies will pay off. Iraqis have so far done whatever they could to stave off war and economic hardships. Now, they are left with no option other than standing firm against overseas aggressors. The alternative for Iraqis will be to invite aggressive invaders to occupy their homeland a thing which they will never do. [passage omitted]

Saddam Addresses Commanders on 1988 Clashes

26 June

JN2606194893 Baghdad Republic of Iraq Radio Network in Arabic 1800 GMT 26 Jun 93

[Text] Leader President Staff Marshal Saddam Husayn, may God preserve him, today received the fighter commanders, who had the honor to carry out his excellency's instructions to plan for and wage the heroic battle, the Second Tawakkalna 'Ala al-Llah, in which our brave Armed Forces, valiant men of the Presidential Guard and the difficult missions, and the brave men of the 6th Army Corps and the 3d Army Corps, liberated the two Majnun Islands in the al- Huwayzah marshes and our oil fields in them.

The leader president delivered a valuable speech at the meeting: Following is the text:

So, it is the Second Tawakkalna 'Ala al-Llah after the Twakkalna 'Ala al-Llah, in which we liberated Shalamcheh. The Second Tawakkalna 'Ala al-Llah took place in the Majnun Islands, didn't it? This occurred on 25 June, 1988. During this meeting, my brothers, we recall this day with much pride, directing our attention to all the important lessons that were the fruit of the blood of the martyrs on that day and the day which preceded it, during that bitter conflict between right and wrong, between the defender of the homeland and the nation's principles, and the deviationists who lived in darkness, in wrong, in hostility, and in efforts to use all the complications of history against our nation and people.

On this day of victory, we recall all righteous Iraqi martyrs in paradise. May God greet the martyrs and those who are still alive, who are loyal to the principles, and who have faith in this honorable path in the service of the nation and the people. May God greet those who are still alive because they are potential martyrs. Almighty God gave them the chance to live for a certain purpose. May God greet you, comrades.

Three Iraqi flags were seen at the meeting carrying the names of our righteous martyrs, who played their well-known role in planning for and carrying out the operation. The first flag carried the name of the heroic martyr, Staff General 'Adnan Khayrallah, who was commander in chief of the Armed Forces and defense minister during the great liberation battles, including the Second Tawakkalna 'Ala al-Llah. The second flag carried the name of the heroic martyr, Staff Major General Hamid Shakir Mahmud, commander of the 41st Division. The third flag carried the name of the heroic martyr, Staff Brigadier General Tahir 'Abd-al-Rashid, who was commander of the Third Armored Division in that immortal battle.

The fighters who took part in the battle and who had the honor of meeting his excellency are:

1. Staff Lieutenant General Husayn Kamil Hasan, supervisor of the Presidential Guard.
2. Staff General Nizar 'Abd-al-Karim al-Khazaraji, chief of staff of the army.
3. Staff General Husayn Rashid Muhammad, assistant to the chief of staff for operations.
4. Staff General Iyad Futayyih Khalifah al-Rawi, commander of the Presidential Guard.
5. Pilot Lieutenant General, Hamid Sha'ban Khudayyir, commander of the Air Force and Air Defense.
6. Staff Lieutenant General 'Ala' al-Din Kazim Hammad, general secretary of the Armed Forces General Command.

7. Staff Lieutenant General Sabir 'Abd-al-'Aziz Husayn, director of the General Military Intelligence.
8. Staff Lieutenant General Pilot al-Hasan Hasan 'Ali, director of the Army Air.
9. Staff Lieutenant General Salah 'Abbud Mahmud, commander of the 3d Army Corps.
10. Staff Lieutenant General Ahmad Ibrahim Hammash, commander of the Medina Forces, Presidential Guard.
11. Staff Lieutenant General 'Abd-al-Wahid Shinan Al Ribat, commander of Baghdad Forces, Presidential Guard.
12. Staff Lieutenant General Ibrahim 'Abd-al-Sattar Muhammad, commander of the Hamurabi Forces, Presidential Guard.
13. Staff Lieutenant General Yaljin 'Umar 'Adil, commander of the 6th Army Corps.
14. Staff Major General Wa'dallah Mustafa Hannush, commander of the Special Forces, Presidential Guard.
15. Staff Major General Thamir Sultan Ahmad, commander of the First Mechanized Division.
16. Staff Major General Husayn Hasan 'Adday, commander of the Sixth Armored Division.
17. Major General Faruq Tawfiq 'Abd-al-Razzaq, commander of the 25th Infantry Division.

An overall review was then made of the circumstances of the battle and the implementaton of his excellency's instructions. Each of the commanders spoke about his role in this battle, the role of the units under his command, and the progress of the military operations in detail so they can be given as a present to generations and as a source of pride for them in the brave battle the Iraqis and their Armed Forces waged to defend the land, dignity, and sovereignty against the racist Persian grudge and ambitions.

Defense Minister Attends Exercise, Addresses Fighters

JN2806175193 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1655 GMT 28 Jun 93

[Text] Baghdad, 28 Jun (INA)—Staff General Fighter 'Ali Hasan al-Majid, member of the Revolution Command Council [RCC] and defense minister, has attended a live field training exercise codenamed [Saddam Husayn's] "Blessed Birthday" conducted by the heroes of al-Hamzah Forces within the Hittin Forces sector of operations.

At the outset of the exercise, the commander of the al-Hittin Forces gave a briefing on the nature of the units participating in the exercise, the phases of the exercise, and the lessons derived from it. The first staff officer of the Hittin Forces then gave a briefing on the phases of the exercise.

Then, the Munir, Iyad, and 'Abdallah formations began the two stages of the exercise in very hot weather. The fighters showed ability, good performance, and high physical ability in carrying out their tasks. They also demonstrated magnificent and accurate cooperation with the other combat and logistic units.

The defense minister praised the efforts exerted by the al-Hamzah command and staff officers. He also praised the artillery personnel's accurate implementation of the firing plan, their direct aiming fire, their high physical fitness, and their arrival at their targets in record time.

The defense minister said that the purpose of reviewing the exercise is to learn from the mistakes in a battle in order to minimize losses.

The defense minister addressed the audience, saying: O mujahidin in the great Iraqi Army, while representing goodness in the whole world, you should carry out more exercises and training, and exploit all the creative Iraqi resources to safeguard Iraq and its great message. What is taking place in the world, in terms of a deviant unilateral American policy of controlling the world, constitutes a temporary period. We should use all our resources and be honest and decisive swords brandished in the hands of our zealous Arab leader, President Saddam Husayn.

Concluding his address, Staff Gen. 'Ali Hasan al-Majid, RCC member and defense minister, said: We will carry out all our leader's orders. God willing, the banner of God is great will remain high, and Iraq's land will continue to be the lighthouse of all the honest people in the world. We will continue to safeguard this eternal message.

The exercise was attended by Staff General Iyad Futayyih Khalifah al-Rawi, chief of staff of the army; a number of his aides; the secretary of the Hittin military branch of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party; the directors of the combatant and logistics formations; and an elite group of the Hittin Forces.

UN Headquarters Said To Be Freedom Fighters' Target

NC2606151493 Paris AFP in English 1440 GMT 26 Jun 93

[Text] Baghdad, June 26 (AFP)—An Iraqi government daily on Saturday [26 June] said that United Nations headquarters in New York will become a target for freedom fighters.

BABIL was commenting on the arrest Thursday in the United States of eight suspects on charges of conspiring to blow up U.N. headquarters, plotting to assassinate public figures and other terrorist acts.

"The attempt ... reflects the anger of those who now consider that the United Nations no longer represents humanity," BABIL a daily run by President Saddam Husayn's son 'Udayy Husayn, said in an editorial.

It accused the United States of having "transformed the international body into a tool to interfere in the internal affairs of other countries, kill and starve thousands of people."

"The United Nations will become the target of all freedom fighters," it said.

Iraq has been slapped by U.N. sanctions since its August 1990 invasion of Kuwait.

Bomb From Gulf War Activated, Said To Kill 3 Children

JN2806123793 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0950 GMT 28 Jun 93

[Text] Baghdad, 28 Jun (INA)—Three children were martyred in a bomb explosion in the al-Basrah Governorate, 49 km south of Iraq [as received]. The bomb was dropped on residential areas in the al-Zaytun quarter in the al-Qublah area by the treacherous 30-state aggression planes.

The Civil Defense director told INA in the Governorate today that the mud-covered bomb was activated by hot weather. It killed Kazim Jum'ah 'Ali, 9, Qusayy Shanshal (Dizbul), 9, and Yusuf Fakhir, 13.

Missile Defused in Karkuk

JN2806173693 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1705 GMT 28 Jun 93

[Text] Karkuk, 28 Jun (INA)—Civil Defense agencies in al-Ta'mim Governorate have defused an unexploded missile dropped at the Karkuk Railway Station by the aircraft of the imperialist-Zonist coalition during the 30-state aggression.

The missile weighs (?5,000) pounds. It is 1.6 meters in length and 30 cm in diameter.

Opposition Leader Rejects WASHINGTON POST Report

LD2706073593 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0610 GMT 27 Jun 93

[Excerpts] Washington, 27 Jun (KUNA)—An Iraqi opposition leader has refuted the contents of a report filed by THE WASHINGTON POST correspondent from Baghdad regarding the position of the opposition forces inside Iraq. In a statement to KUNA, Ahmad al-Halabi, chairman of the Executive Council of the Iraqi National Congress [INC], said the report filed by Carolyn Murphy is challengeable in its entirety. He pointed out that the report was full of contradictions, as the correspondent said it was impossible to ascertain the thoughts of the Iraqi public living in a dictatorial country under the Saddam regime, but on the other hand referred to views of independent individuals living inside Iraq regarding the Saddam regime. [passage omitted]

Al-Halabi reaffirmed that the INC enjoys great support throughout Iraq, contrary to what the author of the report said—that Iraqis have not heard of the leaders of the Congress. [passsage omitted] In his statement to KUNA, the Iraqi leader reaffirmed that the Congress rejects the idea of violence and assassinations as political actions; the Congress avoids such operations because it believes that the killing of innocent people would benefit the tyrant Saddam Husayn.

Al-Halabi said the unified Iraqi Congress works on the basis of respect for human rights, democracy, and a multiparty system in Iraq, as well as respecting international charters and treaties and all UN resolutions on Iraq. He added: I do not fear declaring these principles despite the negative reactions the Congress gets from those who look at the Iraqis and the Arabs as if they are incapable of living in the modern era except under tyrannical regimes. [passage omitted]

Rabin: U.S. Position on Jerusalem 'Not Binding'

TA2806151393 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1500 GMT 28 Jun 93

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin said that in the course of the peace talks Israel did not receive any document from the Americans that proposes to include Jerusalem in the autonomy. As far as Israel is concerned, there is no question about it and the city will not be included in the autonomy. Mr. Rabin explained that the statement issued by the Americans spelling out their position on the issue is not binding on Israel. The prime minister was addressing the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee and his remarks were reported by our correspondent Yo'el Nir.

Peres Interviewed on Peace Talks, Trip to Egypt

TA2806175093 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1505 GMT 28 Jun 93

[Studio interview with Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres by Menahem Friedman on the "Six After Six" program—live]

[Excerpts] [Friedman] Good evening, Foreign Minister Peres.

[Peres] Good evening to you too.

[Friedman] Our program focuses tonight on our negotiations with the Palestinians on the Jerusalem issue. Do you think the Palestinians brought up this issue in order to kill the talks?

[Peres] I believe that the Palestinians, who are familiar with the rules, know full well that launching the negotiations with the issue of Jerusalem means terminating them before they even begin. One point in the Jerusalem issue does have to be clarified—the voting right of Palestinians carrying Jordanian passports, who live in this city. This is a question we will have to address. If they raised this issue in a bid to solve this point in the framework of autonomy negotiations, that would be more understandable, because autonomy is not based on a map, and Jerusalem is outside the autonomy map. To sum it up, it is reasonable to believe that while they raised the issue of Jerusalem as a whole, they may have wanted to raise the matter of Jerusalem residents' voting rights rather than anything else.

[Friedman] Thinking about the Palestinian delegation, which comes to the talks while keeping in close touch with Tunis, is a bit strange. In fact, had the Tunis leadership wanted to stop the talks, it could have ordered the delegation to stay away from the talks without resorting to the Jerusalem issue; that would have kept their options open. Why demand to discuss Jerusalem?

[Peres] I think they wanted to halt the negotiations, because they were troubled by other issues. First of all, they were trying to boost their negotiating position in other spheres on the agenda. Second, the move was designed to apply pressure in a bid to improve the financial and fiscal status of Palestinians in the territories and of the PLO itself. Third, they may have wanted to protest the U.S. paper, which they saw as a unilateral, pro-Israeli move.

[Friedman] Is it possible that as a result of Israel's endorsing the inclusion of Faysal al-Husayni in the Palestinian delegation, they decided to make more demands?

[Peres] I don't think so. I think they know what our red lines are, and they realize perfectly well that no Israeli Government will be ever able to muster a majority to divide Jerusalem; this issue is not on the agenda. Anyway, I believe that Faysal al-Husayni held a key position in the negotiations even before. He started outside the conference room, and now he is inside.

[Friedman] But this does seem to carry a certain symbolic message.

[Peres] I am not at all certain there is any message there. On the other hand, some hard facts have been placed on the negotiating table, and the Palestinians are familiar with them.

[Friedman] Sir, what will Jerusalem look like after an agreement is reached and Jerusalem remains the only unresolved issue? It will have to be discussed, because even the Americans insist that the issue of Jerusalem should be placed on the negotiating table. How will Jerusalem look from our viewpoint?

[Peres] It will be a united city, the capital of Israel under Israeli sovereignty, open to every religion and every worshiper, be he from Libya or anywhere else. We may possibly have to live without an agreement on this issue, that can happen; we may agree to disagree.

[Friedman] Do you think that when Jerusalem is brought up in the course of negotiations, Israel may agree to include some kind of a municipal representation of Palestinian residents of Jerusalem?

[Peres] No. The residents will elect whoever they like for city hall. I do not see why Arab representatives cannot be elected, just as Arab representatives get elected to the Knesset. Elections are based on the principle of one vote per person, and this rule applies to all the residents. Therefore, I definitely believe that Arabs can be elected to the Jerusalem city council, just as Arabs get elected to the Israeli Knesset, but I do not believe the city should be divided on that basis.

[Friedman] Sir, the 23 Tomahawks fired by the United States at an Iraqi intelligence base may have been Clinton's first step toward acquiring new public assets. He seems to want to regain the glory he lost during his first months in government. Do you believe a situation may arise in which Clinton will apply the same line of thinking to the Israeli-Palestinian negotiations and present Israel with a document containing a Jerusalem

clause that will be unacceptable to Israel? Such a paper would put us in a difficult situation with the United States.

[Peres] As for the Tomahawks, let us be fair: He had a good reason.

[Friedman] He has an equally good reason here.

[Peres] They were going to assassinate a former U.S. president, and there is some very serious proof of that. Saddam Husayn was committing a crime, he invited the reaction.

As for Jerusalem, we are familiar with the traditional U.S. stands. I assume they have not changed, and I assume they will not change.

[Friedman] Do you mean to say the United States continues speaking of united Jerusalem under Israeli sovereignty?

[Peres] No, this is not what the United States has been speaking of. It has been speaking of united Jerusalem without making a reference to sovereignty. There was Carter's letter, there was the late Begin's letter, there was that of al-Sadat, each expressing a different stand. The United States endorsed none of the stands: either ours or Egypt's.

[Friedman] How then will they be able to promote the negotiations?

[Peres] Look, first of all I suggest that we refrain from presenting ultimatums. The 10th round will end on Thursday [1 July], but it will not be the end of the world or of the talks. The world will continue spinning and the negotiations will be pursued in diverse ways. I believe the Palestinians have no choice but to continue the negotiations with an eye to results, and they know exactly the location of the boundaries which this government will not cross; there is nothing theoretical about that. And we, too, want to pursue the negotiations. Therefore, although the picture seems grim and depressing right now, I believe there is a way out of this situation—a positive, not a negative way out.

[Friedman] Where will they find this political wisdom?

[Peres] Look, they have accepted many things they had earlier rejected. Even autonomy was not acceptable to the Palestinians in the past. Don't forget that the Palestinians rejected the notion of autonomy when it was raised by al-Sadat. Time is also a teacher, and time too offers solutions. [passage omitted]

[Friedman] Mr. Peres, our political correspondent Shlomo Raz has just passed me this message: Next week Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres will make a two-day trip to Egypt in the framework of the two countries' routine coordination and briefing meetings. This time, Mr. Peres will discuss the peace process, with an emphasis on the multilateral track, and the relations between the two countries. He will meet with Mubarak and the country's top echelons. Will the issues we discussed today come up in your meeting with the Egyptian president?

[Peres] I will answer every question I am asked. My answers in Cairo will not differ from those I gave in Jerusalem. I may provide more details and more explanations, because some things are self-explanatory in Jerusalem, but this is what dialogue is all about: listening and talking, asking and replying.

[Friedman] What do the Egyptians think of the Jerusalem issue?

[Peres] The Egyptians are familiar with the Israeli position. Whatever the Egyptians are told in private meetings does not differ from what is being said publicly here. It is a fact that al-Sadat came to Jerusalem although he was familiar with our stands on this issue, and I think it is a definite possibility that we will eventually reach a point where Jerusalem will remain the only clause on which the two sides will agree to disagree. Even mutual consent to disagree is a kind of an agreement.

[Friedman] Agreement will have been attained on every aspect of autonomy with the exception of Jerusalem?

[Peres] No, autonomy is a different matter. We have no mandate to negotiate autonomy in Jerusalem, because the Knesset passed a resolution applying the Israeli law to Jerusalem. This is something else. [passage omitted]

Comments on U.S. Position Paper

TA2906065893 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0500 GMT 29 Jun 93

[Telephone interview with Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres by Mikha Friedman and Ya'el Dan—live]

[Excerpt] [Friedman] Good morning, Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres.

[Peres] Good morning.

[Friedman] Does the fact that the U.S. position paper, which introduces the future of Jerusalem into the negotiations, was not submitted yesterday indicate that Israel's dissatisfaction over this is bearing fruit?

[Peres] First, I want to analyze the difference between the previous paper submitted by the United States and the present paper. The previous paper was supposed to sum up the agreements ostensibly achieved by the two sides. The upcoming paper or speech—for it may take the form of a speech—could constitute an opening for an argument. This means that there is a very great difference in the nature of the two papers.

[Friedman] When you speak about an argument, are you merely referring to an argument between us and the Palestinians or also to a confrontation between us and the United States?

[Peres] This depends on the U.S. position. I did not use the word confrontation, however.

[Dan] To the best of your knowledge, will Jerusalem be mentioned in the U.S. position paper?

[Peres] I have no idea. Nobody knows this. To the best of my knowledge, the United States has not submitted such a document to us or the Palestinians so far. Let me recall, however, that at Camp David, the issue of Jerusalem was also referred to in three documents. One was Mr. Begin's letter to President Carter, the second was al-Sadat's letter to Carter, and the third was included in a letter by Carter himself. So there is nothing new under the sun. The fact that there are three positions regarding Jerusalem does not constitute any sensational novelty.

[Friedman] At the same time, Mr. Peres, when Yitzhaq Shamir went to Madrid two years ago, Israel did not say that the issue of Jerusalem is not negotiable.

[Peres] We should recall that Mr. Shamir was invited for a meeting and that he did not go to finalize anything there. When such an invitation is issued, the inviting party must take into consideration all the sides, and nobody commits himself beyond the commitment to invite the parties and to attend the meeting. At present, however, we are not dealing with invitations but rather with finalizing things, and this is a great difference.

[Dan] Mr. Peres, we want to understand: Are you saying that any mention of Jerusalem in the U.S. document will be rejected by Israel?

[Peres] Not necessarily. If they write that Jerusalem is the eternal capital of Israel, we will not reject this.

[Friedman] Do you have any information that this is going to be stated there?

[Peres] No. My assessment is that if the United States includes the issue of Jerusalem in the paper, it will be quite careful, because it is familiar with Israeli public opinion and with the position of the government and all the parties. If it includes anything about this, however, it will be closely linked to the traditional U.S. position.

[Friedman] Are they checking out various formulations with Israel to see whether it finds them acceptable?

[Peres] In the past, the Arabs indeed suspected that the U.S. document was a result of an agreement with Israel—which was untrue. This time, therefore, they are being careful not to create the impression that they have consulted with one side more than the other. They are preserving the balance by having the two sides agree and disagree to the same extent.

[Friedman] Are you implying that the United States is consulting with both sides this time?

[Peres] The United States is constantly holding consultations, but nobody has perused a written version of their position.

[Dan] Mr. Peres, are you satisfied with the scope of U.S. involvement or would you prefer deeper involvement to facilitate things?

[Peres] Look, I am a provincial person, and I believe that much depends on us.

[Dan] What do you mean?

[Peres] The United States cannot fill our place or that of the Palestinians. It can bridge the gaps between our positions but not replace us.

[Friedman] How can we circumvent the issue of Jerusalem, which is so painful to both sides?

[Peres] I think that the issue of Jerusalem should be divided into two temporal segments, the first being the autonomy period and the second the permanent stage. Borders are not part of the discussions on the autonomy period. There are, however, existing borders: Jerusalem is part of the State of Israel, and I do not believe anybody is going to change this fact, either during the autonomy stage or in the future. In my opinion, the real problem with regard to Jerusalem in the autonomy stage is not one of borders but rather of the voting rights of Palestinians holding a Jordanian passport. The question is whether they will be able to vote for the autonomy institutions. This is the real question. I think the other questions are of a more declarative [preceding word in English] nature. We will have to give an answer to this question, which deals with a limited time framework.

[Dan] Will the U.S. document be submitted today or tomorrow?

[Peres] I do not know. I do not even know whether it will be a document or a speech by Christopher. I do not think the United States has decided yet which would be better. A speech may preferable, because it is easier to argue over a speech than a document.

[Friedman] If, eventually, the United States presents a position that is closer to the Palestinian position on Jerusalem, could Washington lose its standing as an honest broker?

[Peres] No. We will continue to argue with Washington. We do not expect Washington to identify with all our positions.

[Friedman] Washington was not supposed to express any positions in these negotiations, Mr. Peres. It was supposed to mediate or bridge the gaps between the sides rather than present its own proposals.

[Peres] Well, we do not know what it will do, but it can offer a new basis for continuing the discussions. I am not one of those who believe that, like in boxing, the 10th round is the final round....

[Friedman, interrupting] In professional boxing there are 15 rounds, so we have five more rounds to go.

[Peres] True. In our negotiations there can also be no knockouts. I believe, therefore, that the negotiations will continue beyond the 10th round, both through official and informal channels. We will continue to search for formulations. [passage omitted]

Rabin on Situation in North, Iranian Threat

TA2806155993 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1400 GMT 28 Jun 93

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin stated today that the situation along the northern border has escalated, as attested by Hizballah's trigger-happy attitude. Addressing the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee, Rabin said that Iran poses a military threat because it is building itself up to become a superpower and manufacturer of nonconventional weapons. Our Knesset correspondent Tziyon Nanus reports:

One day after the Americans dealt with Iraq, the prime minister focused his attention on the Iranian threat. Iran is more dangerous than Iraq, Rabin asserted categorically in his address to the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee. He warned that extreme fundamentalism has at its disposal an international terror infrastructure nobody else ever had, not even the Palestinians. According to him, Iran is a military threat because it is building itself up to become a superpower in the region, through Islamic domination in the short term and through the development of nonconventional weapons in the long term.

Unfortunately, the prime minister said, Russia and the PRC agreed to build two nuclear reactors in Iran, which they told us would be used for civilian purposes. Meanwhile, North Korea is supplying Scud missiles to Tehran.

Israel continues to operate on the intelligence level to thwart the Iranian actions, Rabin said. Pointing an accusing finger, he went on to point out that the governments receiving our information do not always use it correctly. Iran operates against Israel mainly by supporting Hizballah and Hamas [Islamic Resistance Movement]. These two movements are trying to torpedo the peace negotiations which, as is known, is an avowed Iranian policy, Rabin told the committee members.

The prime minister believes the situation along the northern border has escalated. Although Katyusha attacks on Israeli targets are not methodically planned, Hizballah has been more trigger-happy in its response to Israel's operations. To illustrate this assertion, the prime minister presented the committee members with pertinent data: In the first six months of 1993, there were 518 security-related incidents, whereas there were only 313 such incidents in the preceding six months. In other words, the number of incidents in the north increased by some 65 percent.

Opposition Presents Report on Government Failures

TA2806185393 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 1700 GMT 28 Jun 93

[Excerpt] Likud leader Binyamin Netanyahu says the Rabin government has not produced the kind of negotiations that would lead to a durable peace. Netanyahu made the comment after presenting President 'Ezer Weizman with the opposition's report on what it describes as the government failures during its first year in office.

[Begin Netanyahu recording] I can give you the title. It says: A Year of Disappointments, and I think that that reflects the general sentiment of the Israeli public. They are disappointed with the Rabin's government performance both inside, the domestic issue, the level of aliya that has not increased contrary to promises, the level of unemployment that remains static, the absence of the real change of the Israeli system from the party-dominated, Histadrut [trade union federation]-dominated, Qupat Holim [Histadrut's sick fund]-dominated centralist socialist system to a freer, more liberal economic and social environment. That is one set of disappointments.

The second is that this government has not produced the kind of negotiations that would lead to a durable peace. Peace [words indistinct] but has had a cascade of concessions which will neither bring security nor peace for the people of Israel. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Closure Halts Economic Growth in April-May 1993

TA2806140793 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew 28 Jun 93 p 22

[Text] The Israeli economy has not grown since March 1993 due to the negative impact the closure on the territories has had on the demand for Israeli goods and labor costs, especially in the construction and food production business, in light industries, and in services. This transpires from data about the state of the economy in April-May 1993 released yesterday by the Central Bureau of Statistics.

The data shows a decline in economic activity and a halt in the GDP's growth, which had been registered in the first quarter of the year, prior to the closure. The business product rose 2 percent and was 4 percent higher than during the same period in 1992, while the GDP rose 2 percent and was 3 percent higher than during the same period in 1992.

The decline encompassed all sectors of the economy, except for tourism (which rose 3 percent) and purchases of industrial equipment (which rose 6 percent). Industrial production dropped 2 percent and imports of raw material decreased 13 percent, while retail sales remained unchanged.

Egyptian Bank To Open Branches in West Bank

TA2806151593 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 28 Jun 93 pp A1, A8

[Report by Tzvi Zrahya and Marit Gilat]

[Excerpt] Arab Land Bank, an Egyptian bank, will open branches in Bethlehem and Nabulus by the end of 1993. The branches will be subject to the joint control of Egypt's Central Bank and Bank of Israel's supervisor of banks in the territories. This was announced yesterday by Ze'ev Abeles, Bank of Israel's supervisor of banks, at a news conference on the occasion of the release of the 1992 annual bank report. It should be pointed out that as part of his job, Abeles is also in charge of supervising banks beyond the Green Line.

Arab Land Bank had branches in the West Bank until 1967. The agreement between Israel's and Egypt's central banks enabling the resumption of its operations in the area was reached in the framework of the peace talks in Washington. Abeles represented Israel in the deliberations on the development of bank services in the territories.

"The Israeli Government is clearly interested in Arab banks opening branches in the West Bank in order to encourage an independent economy in those areas," Abeles said. "A prerequisite for economic activity is a developed banking system, and the Arab countries, first and foremost Egypt and Jordan, have the potential to develop it."

According to Abeles, the move of Jordanian banks to the territories is complicated "because Israel does not have normal relations with Jordan." However, despite the obstacles, contacts continue between the supervisors of banks of both countries in a bid to reach an understanding about the distribution of authority between them. According to Abeles, an arrangement with Jordan will enable the Cairo-Amman Bank, whose presence in the West Bank "is currently maintained on a low flame, to expand its activities."

Cairo-Amman Bank is the only Arab bank in the West Bank at the moment, while Palestine Bank, Inc., is the only bank operating in the Gaza Strip. Rumors notwithstanding that Palestine Bank, Inc., intends to apply for permission to open another branch in East Jerusalem, Abeles said yesterday that he has not yet received any such request. He pointed out that "since East Jerusalem is part of Israel, if the Gazan bank wants to open a branch there it will necessitate the permission of the Bank of Israel, just like any other foreign bank." [passage omitted]

Two Soldiers Wounded in Mount Gilboa' Explosion

TA2906054693 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 0500 GMT 29 Jun 93

[Text] Two soldiers were slightly wounded near Mount Gilboa' when a jeep on patrol drove over an explosive charge, setting it off. Our correspondent Yo'av Aviv reports that the police command operates such patrols along the Green Line. The jeep was driving along the patrol road near the village of 'Arabbunah, on the slopes of Mt. Gilboa'. As a result of the explosion, which occurred at 0630, one soldier suffered a minor leg injury and the other was thrown by the blast. The two were taken to the 'Afula hospital. Large police forces were alerted to the scene. Ya'aqov Ganot, commander of the Northern District Police, ordered searches along the patrol road in the vicinity of Mt. Gilboa'.

UN Ambassador Calls for International Antiterror Action

TA2906035393 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 2000 GMT 28 Jun 93

[Text] Israel's UN Ambassador Gad Ya'aqobi has appealed to Secretary General Butrus Butrus-Ghali to initiate UN-sponsored international action against terrorism. Ya'aqobi urged Butrus-Ghali to initiate a joint effort in the sphere of military intelligence, information exchange, and diplomatic cooperation.

Ambassador Ya'aqobi asked the UN secretary general to distribute his letter among all UN members.

Parliament Condemns 'Brutal' U.S. Raid on Baghdad

JN2906075893 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 29 Jun 93 p 3

[Text] Amman (PETRA)—The Upper and Lower House of Parliament Monday [28 June] voiced their condemnation of the U.S. missile attack on Baghdad which resulted in killing and wounding Iraqi civilians.

The senate expressed astonishment at the American attack on Iraq and deplores the actions of "the biggest member among the United Nations against another member of the organisation, flagrantly violating the U.N. Charter, international legitimacy and Security Councile rules," in a statement issued by the Upper House of Parliament's permanent Bureau.

Coming at this criticial stage, the statement said, the aggression on Iraq constituted an outrageous violation of the charter of the United Nations and exposed the double standards attitude adopted by the U.S. administration vis-a-vis other issues like the continued Israeli aggression on the Palestinian people under occupation and the genocide practised daily against the people of Bosnia-Hercegovina.

Such practices and double standards dealing in international issues can only negatively affect world stability and the peace and security of the region and would create bitterness in the hearts of the Arab masses and the oppressed peoples of the world, continued the statement.

It said that such measures can endanger human rights and deepen fear and hatred among nations, something which would lead to "the loss of hope," it added.

The statement urged Arab countries to end their differences and exert efforts to safeguard their future.

In a separate statement, the Lower House described the U.S. raid on Baghdad as brutal and based on feeble pretexts and allegations that never were proved about an action that was never executed. "The raid on Baghdad also was a reminder of the conspiratorial attitude of the United States and Europe against the Muslim people, preventing them from their right to self defence and acquisition of arms at a time when weapons of all kinds were being supplied to the other parties," the statement said.

It said the Lower House was also reminded of "the continued Israeli aggression on the Palestinian people, Israel's killing of Palestinians and demolition of Arab homes and its expulsion of Palestinian citizens," most importantly the U.S. backing of these Israeli aggressive policies and its shielding the Jewish state from any punishment.

The Arab people, particularly the Iraqi people, refuse to become the victim of policies and decisions taken for purely internal American considerations—policies and decisions intended to disassociate the Clinton administration from accusation of being weak and hesitant, said the statement.

It stressed that the attack would not have come had the Arabs been more steadfast.

The house called on the international community to condemn such acts and prevent their recurrence, said the statement. It said that the U.N. Security Council should not serve as a tool for the implementation of unjust and double standard policies, and urged Arab masses to take a brave and responsible stand in the face of injustice and aggression.

Parties, Organizations Denounce U.S. Missile Strike

JN2806150893 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic 28 Jun 93 p 8

[Text] Amman—Parties, professional and trade unions, and popular key sectors have denounced the U.S. aggression against fraternal Iraq.

In a statement, the Jordanian Democratic Popular Unity Party said this aggression is part of the continued aggression and embargo against Iraq and affirms that the U.S. Administration under Clinton pursues the same policy initiated by the previous administration against Iraq's sovereignty and territorial integrity and which has nothing to do with UN Security Council Resolution 878, by which Iraq had abided.

The party added: The flimsy excuses Washington adopts to justify the aggression and its claims that Iraq was involved in an attempt to assassinate President Bush during his recent visit to Kuwait do not deceive anyone. It has become obvious that President Clinton's administration harbors enmity not only to Iraq but to all Arabs.

The official spokesman [as published] concluded his statement by calling on all national, progressive, and Islamic forces to decisively confront the aggression against the peoples' spirit of independence and their will to reject the subservience; this aggression seeks to transform all Third World countries into pliable tools in the hands of a United States that has appointed itself sole world policeman.

The General Federation of Trade Unions [GFTU] also issued a statement denouncing the new U.S. aggression against the fraternal Iraqi people and strongly condemning this unjustified behavior. The GFTU emphasized to all countries in the world and all peace-loving people the need to confront U.S. arrogance and U.S. encroachment on all international norms and rules, as well as its exploitation of international legitimacy to attack people's freedoms and sovereignty.

The GFTU said: Our workers in Jordan call on the Arab nation and all honest people to support the fraternal Iraqi people in their tribulation and to confront the aggressors, irrespective of their color. The GFTU added:

Our workers stress to the sons of their nation the need for cohesion and solidarity to deter aggression, to unite, and to rise from this state of impotence and fragmentation to unity and solidarity. The GFTU concluded: Greetings and appreciation to the Iraqi people for their steadfastness, and let us carry out further jihad, struggle, and steadfastness.

The mining workers union, the overland transportation workers and drivers union issued two statements condemning the new U.S. aggression against the people and workers of Iraq and against Iraqi economic and industrial establishments, designed to cow and subdue Iraq. They called on the peace-loving countries and human rights bodies to assist the Iraqi people to face the unjust embargo the United States and imperialism have imposed on them.

The Jordanian Socialist Democratic Party issued a statement denouncing the criminal U.S. missile attack against steadfast and militant Baghdad yesterday morning, an attack that destroyed several establishments and killed many defenseless citizens.

The statement said the U.S. Administration's use of the unsubstantiated claim about the assassination attempt against former president and criminal Bush to justify its recent aggression is only one of the many chapters of provocations and encroachments on our heroic Iraq and our entire Arab nation at the instigation of Zionist quarters and some Arab regimes who recently began to play the tune of capitulation and submission at the door of the White House.

'Ali 'Amir, secretary general of the Jordanian Democratic Progressive Party made the following statement:

The new U.S. strike against Baghdad yesterday, using Tomahawk cruise missiles, is another link in the ongoing unjust U.S. aggression against sisterly Iraq and its steadfast people. It is an exposed attempt to maintain tension in the region, prolong the blockade, subjugate Iraq, kill its people, destroy its facilities, and break its steadfastness. This is a prelude to the fragmentation of Iraq and the imposition of hegemony on the entire region. The aggression is an attempt to continue to terrorize the world and present the new world order in the old image of Rome, enslaving all nations, especially in the Arab region.

The Islamic Resistance Movement, Hamas, issued the following statement:

The United States has proven once again, through its new administration, its open hostility to everything that is Arab or Islamic, whether by its massacres in Somalia or by continuing to blockade the Arab people and target and destroy their capabilities, in order to serve the Zionist entity.

The recent U.S. attack against Iraqi facilities is an act of piracy and terrorism and an attempt to cover up for the Clinton administration's weakness, confusion, and open hypocrisy toward Bosnian Muslims. The operation is intended to peddle a U.S.-Zionist solution to the Palestine question and create an atmosphere of terror in order to peddle a so-called declaration of principles to serve Zionist interests.

The al-'Ahad [Pledge] Party said this brute aggression confirms that U.S. decisionmaking is still a slave to pressure groups, centers of power, oil companies, and the bribes lobby in Washington. Such aggression, given its ridiculous justifications, will certainly harm the U.S. reputation worldwide.

While denouncing this U.S. arrogance, we assert our solidarity with the heroic Iraqi people. We call for serious Arab and world action to end the suffering of our people in Iraq, lift the unjust blockade, and deliver a clear message to the U.S. Administration that its practices will only foster more hatred and adversely affect vital U.S. interests in the region.

The Jordanian People's Democratic Party said: The new U.S. aggression against Iraq is a link in an all-out war launched by the United States against the Arab nation. It also confirms that it is useless to expect the achievement of peace in light of the U.S. hegemony and unilateral grip on the world in the post-cold war era.

The U.S. aggression against the Arab nation and its conspiring against our national and pan-Arab rights will continue as long as Arab governments continue to be submissive and to abide by the blockade on Iraq. It is neither acceptable nor reasonable now for an Arab government to continue to adhere to this unjust blockade, at a time when the United States pledges to prevent any international measure to punish Israel for its refusal to implement the resolutions of international legitimacy.

Parties Sign Joint Statement

JN2806140093 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic 28 Jun 93 pp 22, 19

[Text] Amman—At the invitation of the Jordanian Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, the Higher Party Coordination Committee held an emergency meeting Sunday [27 June] evening to discuss the Jordanian parties' position on the U.S. aggression against Iraq and the future steps that should be taken to reply to this aggression on Iraq and the Arab nation. Senate member Amin Shuqayr, secretary general of the Jordanian popular committee in charge of supporting Iraq and confronting foreign aggression, attended the meeting.

The Jordanian parties issued a joint statement condemning the U.S. aggression and stating that this act expresses the behavior of a state that claims to be a country of freedom and democracy, and a defender of human rights through its alleged new world order.

The statement said our people in Jordan denounce this heinous crime and announce they will continue to stand

in one trench together with our people in Iraq, sharing them their pains, hopes, and destiny.

The statement called on our Arab people's masses in heroic Jordan as well as the sons of our Arab nation to place the unity of blood and destiny above all other considerations and to appeal to our government, proceeding from its Arab-Islamic trend, to direct its attention to Arab and Islamic interests. The statement also called on the sons of our Arab people to stand by the side of our brothers in Iraq in confronting the continuing U.S. aggression and work for lifting the embargo imposed on our people in Iraq.

The following parties signed the statement: The Jordanian Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, the Islamic Action Front, the Jordanian National Alliance Party, al-Yaqazah [Awakening] Party, the Popular Unity Party-the Unionists, the Jordanian Democratic Progressive Party, the Progress and Justice Party, al-Hurriyah [Freedom] Party, al-Mustaqbal [Future] Party, the Jordanian Democratic Popular Unity Party, the Jordanian Socialist Democratic Party, the Democratic Arab Unionist Party, the Jordanian Communist Party, the Democratic Arab [Islamic Movement] Party, and the Jordanian People's Democratic Party-Hashd. Amin Shuqayr also signed the statement in his capacity as representative of the popular committee in support of Iraq.

Political Activists Demonstrate Against U.S. Raid

JN2906075793 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 29 Jun 93 p 3

["Special" to JORDAN TIMES by Sawsan Ghawshah]

[Text] Amman—A small group of Jordanian political activisits Monday [28 June] staged a demonstration and condemned the latest U.S. missile attack on Baghdad as "continuous aggression on the Arab and Islamic worlds."

The demonstration, which included representatives from the different political streams present in Jordan, denounced the attack, stressing that it is one of America's many actions to control the region.

"This tyrant country (the United States) is interfering in the internal affairs of our nation and is destroying our people," said Hammam Sa'id, a leader of the Muslim Brotherhood bloc in Parliament.

"America's attack on the Iraqi people is an attempt to eliminate all opposition to Washington's policies on Iraq, as well as all the Arabs and Muslims," he added in front of the Parliament House in downtown Amman.

Speakers at the demonstration, called for by The Alliance of Forces that Resist Surrendering, composed mainly of Ba'th Party members and the Muslim Brotherhood, implicitly criticised what they saw as anti-Iraq and pro-Western shift in Jordan's official stand.

"We have seen a shift in Jordan's policy towards Iraq... We object to this new policy and demand more solidarity with the Iraqi people," said Layth Shubaylat, a member of Parliament.

Dr Sa'id concurred. "We warn you that friendly contacts with the United States will not improve the relations with your own people," he said.

The speakers, further, called on the Arab Nation to unite in the face of the "American enemy" and demanded the end of the sanctions against Iraq imposed as a result of Baghdad's August 1990 invasion of Kuwait.

"Our motto is lifting the sanctions imposed against Iraq... and we will continue to work till this is achieved," said Mr. Shubaylat.

Dr Sa'id added that "Jordanians do not agree with any sanctions against Iraq whether from the Jordanian government or any other government."

The demonstration ended in front of the Iraqi Embassy, where participants were greeted by Nuri al-Wayyis, Iraq's ambassador to Jordan.

Demonstrators took the opportunity of the ambassador's presence to voice their support for the Iraqi people. "Any aggression on Iraq is an aggression on all the Arab World," said Naji 'Allush, a member of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine.

"We will support Iraq till the last drop of our blood," he asserted.

Mr. al-Wayyis, refusing to comment on the attack, said "Your Iraq will always remain steadfast and will not abandon its nation as it is sure that its nation will not abandon it."

The demonstration, attended by about one hundered activists, was described, by its organisers as a symbolic protest and that large scale demonstrations are planned for the near future.

The Parliament House was chosen as the point of gathering to symbolise the people, the organisers maintained.

Later protest actions will include parliamentarians as well as the public, they said.

Media React to U.S. Missile Attack on Baghdad

Paper Regrets U.S. Strike

JN2806150793 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 28 Jun 93 pp 1, 27

[Editorial: "Against the Use of Force"]

[Text] His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hasan has hit the nail on the head and summed up in few words what is raging within the hearts of the Arab people, when he

expressed sorrow and sadness over the brute U.S. aggression against the Iraqi people at dawn yesterday, warning of hatred and grudges resulting from such practices.

Prince Hasan summed up the whole situation when he asserted that what happened in Baghdad yesterday would never have happened if the Arab nation had not been suffering from divisions, splits, and disputes and if the Arabs had been more aware of the spirit and democratic values of this age, especially since they were the first to lay down the foundations of shura [consultation] in the early period of the Islamic call.

While greatly pained by what is befalling our brothers in Iraq and strongly rejecting practices based on force, superiority, and arrogance, we call for rational, human dialogue as the only way to settle disputes. We also call for the resolution of all disputes on the basis of UN principles, stipulating that violence shall not be used in this regard.

Above all, we call on the United States and other nations that supported, welcomed, or showed understanding of the use of force against Iraq, to eschew double standards, especially since we hear and see day and night how UN resolutions are being violated in Bosnia-Herzegovina and how the most basic human rights are being violated in former Yugoslavia. In return, the aggressor Serbs are not even admonished in words, let alone by firing an intercontinental ballistic missile [as published] against them.

While expressing great pain and sorrow for the material damage and casualties in Baghdad, regretting the use of force to resolve any international disputes, and calling for an end to double standards, we hope to see dialogue and understanding take the place of the destructive missile force to resolve all disputes in this part of the world, including the dispute the United States has been trying to deepen with sisterly Iraq.

'Blatant Violation' of Human Rights

JN2806144693 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic 28 Jun 93 pp 1, 19

[Editorial: "The U.S. Attack, Why?"]

[Text] The violent U.S. missile strike against Baghdad cannot be justified by any political or legal standards. Iraq did not assassinate former U.S. President George Bush or attack the United States, to warrant a revenge against its people, children, and women in this ugly manner.

The United States was not acting on international resolutions when it carried out the missile attack, which totally contradicts international laws and charters and is a blatant violation of human rights.

The U.S. attack, moreover, revealed U.S. double standards in dealing with regional issues and disputes.

The United States has failed to do anything to stop the barbaric Serbian aggression against the Muslims of Bosnia-Herzegovina and has not implemented a Security Council resolution to intervene militarily to stop the Serbian aggression. The United States, however, quickly launches air raids and violent missile attacks against Baghdad and other Iraqi cities, with or without a justification.

The U.S. Administration continues to force all other states to abide by the unjust blockade against Iraq. It is unmoved, however, by the fascist war launched by Serbs against the Muslims of Bosnia-Herzegovina.

The United States is fully ready to use force to strike Somalia, Iraq, and other Muslim countries, but is unable to do anything about the crimes of Westerners—Serbs, Israelis, and the racist regime in Pretoria.

The U.S. Administration, in brief, uses double standards and adopts contradictory positions toward various issues and disputes. This unjust U.S. approach toward the Islamic nation and its countries is originally the result of divisions, splits, differences, and grudges within Arab ranks.

Crown Prince Hasan, the regent, has said that had the Arabs not been suffering from weakness, deterioration, and divisions, they would have demonstrated a stronger steadfastness in the face of any attack.

His Majesty King Husayn and Crown Prince Hasan have repeatedly called for dialogue to resolve regional and international disputes and avoid the use of force.

These sincere, honest calls reflect a real awareness on the part of the Hashemite leadership, as well as a sharp insight into world issues, in perfect harmony with international laws and charters, which are violated by major powers before others.

As Prince Hasan asserted, violence breeds violence and hatred.

U.S. 'Double Standards' Questioned

JN2906093593 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 29 Jun 93 pp 1, 21

[Editorial: "Legitimate Questions"]

[Text] Except for some supportive stands by Washington's Western allies, world political and media reactions to the U.S. missile attack on Baghdad ranged from denunciation and criticism to surprise and reservation. Meanwhile, the unofficial European stand was inclined toward casting doubt on the credibility of the U.S. policy, on its use of double standards and intentions toward all the current world issues, and on Washington's role as a super power in light of the so-called new world order and the end of the Cold War.

Of course, the Palestinian issue and the Arab-Israeli peace talks in Washington top these world issues. In light

of the U.S. Administration's announcement that it is full and "fair" partner in the peace process, we cannot but legitimately question the U.S. Administration's intentions and its use of more than a single yardstick when dealing with international issues as there are plenty of examples in Bosnia, Somalia, and the Middle East.

Perhaps it is ironic that the U.S. aggression against Iraq and the resulting casualties and destruction come a few days after the end of the World Conference on Human Rights and the Vienna statement and work plan on human rights which noted the big changes in the international arena and all the people's aspirations to establish a world order based on the principles stipulated in the UN Charter. These principles include reinforcing and encouraging respect for human rights and basic liberties of all, as well as respect for the principle of equality in terms of rights and peoples' self-determination. This world order is also based on peace, democracy, justice, equality, the supremacy of the law, pluralism, development, raising the standards of living, and solidarity.

Attack Engenders Arab Hatred

JN2906134093 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 29 Jun 93 p 22

["Highlights" column by Dr. Fahd al-Fanik: "Tyrannical Superpower"]

[Text] The U.S. attack was not perpetrated only against Baghdad, the capital of Iraq, but against the dignity of the entire Arab nation. Baghdad is an Arab capital, a cradle of civilization. It cannot be the target of the missiles of those who thirst for Arab blood and whose hearts are filled with hatred against the Arab nation.

Nevertheless, the barbarous U.S. attack and the innocent Arab blood that was shed on the streets of Baghdad at the hands of the twentieth century beasts will not go in vain. The fig leaf that is hiding the shame of the Arab rulers who have permitted the U.S. cowboy to lead them and have thus lost the last vestige of legitimacy, will now be removed.

In the past, the Arab rulers, who are imposed on their own people, asked Iraq to withdraw from Kuwait and promised to stand by it if it did so, thus offering a moral cover for the U.S. aggression when the United States needed the Arab cover. Now what can these rulers say? Will they repeat that the United States attacked the intelligence building in retaliation for a plot to assassinate Bush, or will they admit that the U.S. arrogance is directing its arrows at the heart of the Arab nation in order to subjugate it and destroy its strength?

This time, the United States did not request a resolution from the Arab League and did not lose time waiting for a UN Security Council resolution despite the fact that it holds both bodies in its hands. It no longer needs to claim that it obeys international legitimacy because its actions have nothing to do with that legitimacy but are a sanguinary war to humiliate every Arab. The official U.S. justification that the action was in legitimate self-defense is ridiculous.

Even if Iraq plotted to assassinate the fallen U.S. President Bush, a military action against a capital of an independent Arab state remains unjustified. Iraq denied the plot and said that there was no need to assassinate a dead man. Bush is a politically and morally dead man and he can only be viewed with disregard.

The United States is the greatest power. But what use is this greatness if it is stripped of justice and morality, and if its hands are stained with the innocent blood? How can the United States view itself as above the law?

The United States has a long history of assassinating heads of states both politically and bodily. Its hands are still stained with their blood. How can the United States fire missiles of death at an Arab capital following false accusations with the mere aim of boosting the popularity of the U.S. President and displaying a firm appearance by attacking a small developing country that has been under siege for three years?

The barbarous U.S. attack can only engender Arab hatred and provoke Arab anger against the Arabic-speaking U.S. agents.

Wrap Up of Media Reportage

JN2806172693

[Editorial Report] Official Jordanian reaction to the U.S. missile attack on the intelligence building in Baghdad on 26 June has thus far been confined to Crown Prince Hasan's remarks at a graduation ceremony of the military wing of Mu'tah University, in which he said: "It is a source of pain and sadness to hear of violence that leads to further hatred and inflicts more human and material losses. This would not have happened had the Arab position been more steadfast and had the principle of shura [consultation] been its basis."

The attack, however, drew strong condemnation from various Jordanian political parties. In a joint statement issued in Amman on 27 June, 15 Jordanian parties condemned the U.S. "aggression," terming it a "heinous crime."

All Jordanian newspapers on 28 June comment on the missile attack, publishing detailed foreign news agency accounts of the U.S. action on their front and inside pages under the following headlines:

AL-RA'Y: American Missile Attack on Baghdad; 23 Missiles Hit Residential Areas in al-Mansur and al-Ma'mun and an Intelligence Headquarters; Six Martyrs and Scores of Wounded; Iraq Calls on the World To Shoulder Its Responsibilities; Arab Denunciation and Dissatisfaction, French Reservation, and Western Support for the Attack.

AL-DUSTUR: Barbaric U.S. Aggression on the Iraqi Capital; Washington Replied to an Attempt on Bush's Life and Baghdad Rejected the Pretext, Considering It Silly; Hasan: Iraq Would Not Have Been Shelled Had the Arab Position Been More Steadfast; Political and Popular Bodies Denounce the American Aggression on Iraq.

SAWT AL-SHA'B: An American Missile Attack on Baghdad; the U.S. Navy Fires 23 Cruise Missiles at Residential Areas in the Iraqi Capital; Clinton: The Attack Is a Reply to the Attempted Assassination of Bush and in Defense of the American People; Israeli-Kuwaiti-Western Welcome, Iranian Denunciation, and Diverse Arab Reactions.

JORDAN TIMES in English: Iraq: 8 Killed in U.S. Missile Strike; Clinton Says Attack on Intelligence Building Retaliation for Bush Plot; Allies Back Action, But Arabs Decry It.

All editorials in the 28 June press regret the U.S. strike, considering it a violation of international law, an expression of double standards, and the result of Arab weakness and UN decline.

Local press columnists have been more strident in their criticism of the U.S. strike. Under the headline "It Is an Aggression Against the Entire Nation," Salamah 'Ukur writes in SAWT AL-SHA'B: "The Unjustified shelling of Baghdad with sophisticated missiles reveals the premeditated hostile U.S. intentions against the Iraqi people and their national leadership." He adds: "The Iraqis have not assassinated former President George Bush to be punished by the U.S. Administration and the subservient United Nations."

AL-RA'Y columnist 'Abd-al-Rahim 'Umar writes: "Who authorized the United States to try Iraq and pass a verdict, and then carry out the sentence haphazardly, indifferent to Iraqi civilan lives?" He adds: "It has become clear that the United States...seeks to transform world nations into herds of cattle driven wherever and in whatever manner it wishes."

AL-RA'Y columnist Tariq Masarwah says: "It seems that the new President, Clinton, is striking at Baghdad to prove to the Americans that he is not a hesitant president, especially after the people's confidence in his ability to make decisions has been reduced to a minimum compared with previous U.S. Presidents." He adds: "Has the shelling of Baghdad become the easiest way for any U.S. President to prove his political masculinity as president?"

AL-DUSTUR columnist Tahir al-'Adwan says: "Bush possessed some human feelings. Before committing his crimes and striking at Baghdad, he used to say he was going to do so. But by his crime against the Abbasid capital, Clinton gave the impression that he can repeat the crime at any time and that Baghdad is now mortgaged to his dreams and grudges as well as all the Zionist and imperialist grudges against the Arab and Islamic nation."

AL-DUSTUR columnist Salih al-Qallab questions the motives behind the U.S. strike and wonders: "If the reason for this attack is proven to be true as announced by Washington through President Bill Clinton, what would the reply be if the assassination attempt succeeded and George Bush was killed in the operation?" The writer concludes that the purpose of the attack is to get rid of Saddam Husayn, but he warns the West and the United States that this mission will not be easy because Saddam Husayn "will fight for his position to the last drop of all his people's blood....even if his country is attacked by nuclear weapons."

Cabinet Briefed on King's 'Successful' U.S. Visit

JN2906141493 Amman Radio Jordan in English 1100 GMT 29 Jun 93

[Text] The Jordanian Cabinet has held a session chaired by Prime Minister 'Abd-al-Salam al-Majali who briefed the ministers on the outcome of his majesty's successful visit to Britain and the United States.

The Cabinet also ratified the establishment of diplomatic relations with Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Press Reports 'Positive Results' of King's U.S. Visit

King Reiterates Success of Trip

JN2606112593 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 26 Jun 93 pp 1, 24

[Editorial: "Fruitful Results of a Successful Visit"]

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn has reiterated his pleasure at the results of his working visit to Washington, during which the foundations of friendship between his majesty and President Clinton were established, and the relations between Jordan and the United States were entrenched.

The historic visit of His Majesty King Husayn has been an opportunity to explain Jordan's steady position on various Arab and international issues, the foremost of which is the peace process. King Husayn has emphasized the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people who have suffered more than any other people. He stressed that he sees no solution to the Palestine question without the Palestinian people's participation.

His majesty also emphasized that reason should prevail as far as human rights and recognition of the Palestinian people's rights on their national soil are concerned. He also stressed that holy Jerusalem is important for all people, and is the jewel and symbol of peace for all the children of Abraham.

Husayn's words, while explaining the development of the Jordanian democratic march, were listened to attentively by his audience. Especially when he stressed that soon after he returns home, he will discuss, with all elements and schools of political thinking that put

together the National Charter, the possibility of modifying the Election Law on the basis of the Constitution. U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher's remarks, stating that Husayn's visit was successful, and the U.S. Congress' majority and minority leaders' appreciation of Jordan's positive role in the bilateral and multilateral peace talks were also noteworthy.

King Husayn's visit and his intensive meetings with ranking U.S. Administration officials, prominent congressmen, journalists, and intellectuals have contributed to the clarification of Jordan's positive image in U.S. forums and at the highest levels. This will have positive result during the next stage and will activate the U.S. role as a full partner in the peace process in order to make progress toward a just, lasting, and comprehensive peace in the region.

Therefore, it is clear that the efforts and the meetings held by his majesty will have positive results and will reflect positively on the region in general.

'Fruitful' Meetings Described

JN2906134993 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic 29 Jun 93 pp 1

[Editorial: "Welcome Home Our Beloved Leader"]

[Text] After a successful visit to the United States, His Majesty King Husayn returned to the homeland to continue the march of reconstruction, development, hard work, and generosity with his one family.

During his visit, His Majesty King Husayn held successful and fruitful meetings with U.S. President Clinton and prominent officials in his administration. He put everyone in the picture on the Jordanian and Arab position on the peace process. He courageously and adroitly explained his sharp insight into developments in the region, warning against the serious consequences entailed by the failure of the peace process.

He represented Jordan and the Arab nation. He spoke in their name and made their voice heard, explaining the constants of their principled positions on fateful issues, headed by the peace issue.

Demonstrating the awareness, courage, adroitness, and brilliance of a unique leader, His Majesty King Husayn elucidated and warned against wasting the available opportunity to achieve peace—a peace based on the resolutions of international legitimacy and the land-for-peace principle. He reaffirmed that Jordan and the other Arab parties will not accept peace for any price.

It is totally clear that Clinton and Christopher's announcements about renewing their pledges to enter as a full and effective partner in order to give momentum to the negotiations were one of the fruits of King Husayn's visit.

President Clinton and prominent officials in his administration did not fail to commend King Husayn's wisdom and political prudence. They did not fail to show their admiration and appreciation of his role in the peace process and concern about achieving a just peace and avoiding more destructive conflicts and wars in the region.

What is more wonderful about King Husayn's visit is the confirmation of his majesty's good health and his safe return to his united family.

Welcome to King Husayn—back among his sons and brothers in his country, the country of steadfastness and strength and the fortress of freedom, democracy, and human rights.

Buwayz Receives Christopher Message on Attack

NC2906060693 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 0430 GMT 29 Jun 93

[Text] President Ilyas al-Hirawi and Prime Minister Rafiq al- Hariri yesterday discussed the noticeable tension in the Lebanese-Israeli peace talks in Washington. Foreign Minister Faris Buwayz attended part of the meeting.

On leaving the presidential palace, Buwayz said that the meeting dealt with the negotiations in Washington. He added that he has received a message from U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher that explained the reasons for the U.S. missile attack on Iraq.

Iraqi Envoy Conveys Position on U.S. Attack

NC2906123493 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1115 GMT 29 Jun 93

[Text] Iraqi Charge d'Affaires 'Awad Fakhri conveyed to Ambassador Adib 'Alam-al-Din, director of Arab affairs at the Foreign Ministry, Iraq's official position on the recent U.S. attack against Baghdad.

Information Minister Comments on Missile Strike

NC2806183093 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 1530 GMT 28 Jun 93

[Excerpts] The minutes of a meeting of a Lebanese-Bahraini information cooperation program were signed today at the Information Ministry in Bahrain. Information Minister Michel Samahah and his Bahraini counterpart Tariq al-Mu'ayyad signed the agreement. [passage omitted]

Minister Samahah held a news conference at the Sheraton Hotel earlier today. [passage omitted] Asked about the Lebanese Government's stance on the U.S. strike against Iraq, Samahah said:

[Begin Samahah recording] The Lebanese Government has not taken an official stance on the U.S. strike at the Iraqi Intelligence Service in Iraq yesterday, but I must mention two things: First, in the absence of Arab solidarity, catastrophes always befall the Arab peoples and the Arab world. If there is a lesson to learn from yesterday's events and their cause, namely, the original incursion into Kuwait and the adventures of some Arab leaders, bringing their people, the Arab peoples, resources, and capabilities into confrontations we could have done without, it is this: Departure from Arab solidarity always leads us into adventures and labyrinths and our people pay the price.

Examining this issue, I must pause at events in Bosnia-Herzegovina to say the world must not remain ruled by two standards and by unequal handling of fundamental issues. In Bosnia-Herzegovina and elsewhere in the former Yugoslavia and Europe, there are great tragedies. The United Nations and the United States must intervene so that justice can be served and people enjoy their rights. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Deputy Prime Minister Leaves for Damascus Talks

NC2606124893 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1015 GMT 26 Jun 93

[Text] Deputy Prime Minister Michel al-Murr has left for Damascus, where he will hold talks with Syrian Vice President 'Abd- al-Halim Khaddam and Syrian Army Chief of Staff General Hikmat al- Shihabi.

Birri Announces U.S. Plan To Send Envoys to Region

NC2606200293 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1915 GMT 26 Jun 93

[Text] Nabih Birri, speaker of the Chamber of Deputies, has denied any knowledge of a U.S. proposal for a partial Israeli withdrawal from south Lebanon. He added that he had contacted Foreign Minister Faris Buwayz, who confirmed that no such U.S. offer was made.

Speaking to a number of reporters at his home in al-Musaylih, Birri disclosed that two U.S. envoys will depart for the Middle East to discuss the peace talks and urge the parties concerned to continue these talks. He added that in his message to Minister Buwayz, U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher said that the U.S. Administration will send Mr. Dennis Ross to Lebanon to meet with the Lebanese officials and will dispatch Edward Djerejian to Israel.

Birri pointed out that withdrawal from Jazzin is an old proposal, but he added: We must not be inflexible about any Israeli pullout from a single inch of Lebanese territory, because this is our right, though not our demand since what we want is full withdrawal.

On the Arab-Israeli talks, Birri asked: What are the elements of pressure that the Arabs have to compel Israel to withdraw? We want to see how much the United States is willing to distance itself from Israel and to see a clear distinction between the two countries' policies.

Asked about the relations between the Phalangist Party and the Amal Movement, Birri said: We are trying to find common ground not only with the Phalangists, but with all parties. After the al-Ta'if Accord, we do not want talk about coexistence, openness, and accord to remain mere words, particularly since we are passing through a delicate stage. We have to answer some difficult questions, such as the question of resettlement [of Palestinians]. In addition, he added, the negotiations are still in progress and we are in a no- peace-no-war situation. He expressed his belief that the negotiations will not lead anywhere. What is required, he said, is for the Lebanese negotiating delegation to emerge from the talks without any loss.

Buwayz Receives Christopher Message on Peace Talks

NC2506114393 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1015 GMT 25 Jun 93

[Text] Our diplomatic correspondent has learned that Foreign Minister Faris Buwayz received a message from U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher today, dealing with the peace process and U.S. efforts to activate Arab-Israeli negotiations.

Christopher affirmed that his country is participating directly in the negotiations and expected progress to be made.

Foreign Minister Buwayz met with Greek Deputy Foreign Minister Mrs. Viryinia Tsoudherou and the delegation accompanying her.

The delegation held talks with the Lebanese side led by Ambassador Zafir al-Hasan, secretary general of the Foreign Ministry, on ways to improve bilateral relations in various fields.

Buwayz Comments on Lack of Progress at Talks

NC2406182993 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 1530 GMT 24 Jun 93

[Text] Foreign Minister Faris Buwayz has announced that time is not working for the good of peace and that Israel's circumvention of the facts is bound to find the peace process at a very dangerous turn. He remarked that the talks' sponsor, the United States, has not played the role we expected and hoped it would.

Buwayz, who returned to Beirut from a tour of Paris and Vienna this afternoon, announced:

[Begin recording] [Buwayz] Israel always turns the facts upside down or tries to circumvent them. It is clear, known, that the deteriorating security in the south, the so-called security problem there, is a consequence of the Israeli occupation. It does not justify the occupation. It only started after the occupation and because of Israel's acts in the south. The primary remedy for this situation is Israel's full withdrawal from Lebanese territory. Such a withdrawal is the only way to solve the southern problem. So the Israeli delegation head's remarks that Israel is defending its existence through its presence in south Lebanon is an attempt to avoid admitting that Israel is an occupier. We believe progress in the negotiations requires, first, frankness and an admission of the facts. Equivocation and attempting to avoid the facts will prolong the negotiations and place them on a very dangerous footing. UN Security Council Resolution 425 is a legally adopted UN resolution. It is unacceptable that a party should not abide by it. It is easy for a particular party to reject a court verdict, for example, but this does not invalidate the verdict. I have said this before: The simplest, easiest, and shortest road to a just and comprehensive peace is to discuss the facts and deal with them, not try to circumvent them.

[Unidentified correspondent] Is Israel, in this 10th round of negotiations, retracting from earlier positions?

[Buwayz] We entreat the United States, which is still the peace conference sponsor and whose sponsorship constitutes a basic factor in the peace process, to play a real and tangible role and bear in mind that time is not working for peace.

[Correspondent] Minister, has the Lebanese delegation informed you that the United States is intervening to make the Israeli position flexible in this round?

[Buwayz] We cannot say the United States, the U.S. Administration, is playing its role as we hoped and expected. [end recording]

Buwayz also commented on his visit to France and his talks with his French counterpart Alain Juppe, saying the discussions dealt with the various cultural, economic, and political aspects of the Lebanese-French relationship. He said his first meeting with Minister Juppe laid the foundations for reviving the traditional ties with France. He said they also discussed the Middle East peace process.

Fadlallah Warns Against Peace on Others' Terms

NC2906092493 Ba'labakk Voice of the Oppressed in Arabic 0530 GMT 29 Jun 93

[Excerpts] Ayatollah Muhammd Husayn Fadlallah has stressed that there will be no peace in the region because peace is intended to serve not the peoples of the region but those who created the problem and who created the sedition and imposed fragmentation and defeat on the peoples of the region. Speaking at a memorial service, he said that peace is theirs, and they, therefore, are trying to tailor and arrange it their own way. [passage omitted]

For his part, Hizballah Secretary General Hasan Nasrallah has noted a major threat to the region—namely, giving the sources of oil, water, and minerals to the Jews and turning the Muslim world into a hostage in the hands of the Jews through settlement and negotiations. Nasrallah was speaking at al-Ghubayrah mosque during the 'Ashura' [holy day marking the death of the Prophet's grandson, al-Husayn]. He said the enemy will make far more political, economic, social, and other gains through negotiations than through war and the use of military force.

His eminence saluted the resistance and stressed that Muslims are dutybound to resist occupation and ward off danger. He said there is now a Western-American war against Islam, and that the Islamic nation is facing real threats. He expressed surprise that at the human rights conference in Vienna, the United States and the West rejected the Arab and Islamic call to condemn the crimes against Muslims in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Media Comment on 10th Round of Arab-Israel Talks

Lack of Progress Noted

JN2506152893 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1135 GMT 25 Jun 93

[Station commentary]

[Text] Gentlemen: The second week of the Washington bilateral talks has ended without making any progress. At the end of their coordination meeting last night, the Arab delegations attending the negotiations expressed grave concern over the future of the peace process. Only one week remains for the conclusion of the 10th round of talks. There is no indication whatsoever of a change in Israel's intransigent position opposing withdrawal from the occupied territories.

U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher has expected progress and pledged to play an effective role in the peace talks. However, none of the Arab delegations on the various tracks of negotiations has sensed any progress, or even any signs of progress. This is because the Israeli position has remained unchanged. Whenever the Arabs raise the issue of complete withdrawal from their occupied territories, the Israelis raise the issue of security and wonder about the type of peace we are offering them. They act as if withdrawal would jeopardize their security.

After 20 months of negotiations, it has become clear that the Israelis want both territory and peace, if possible. If this is found to be impossible, they will be content to retain their control over territory. They are wagering on the time factor and creeping settlement activity. They believe that by doing so, they can present the Arabs with a fait accompli. But, as usual, they are not publicizing their real plans. In the meantime, they project the image of a party that desires peace, when, in point of fact, they want nothing to do with peace. Syria previously submitted to the Israelis a constructive, balanced, and objective document containing a host of proposals to advance the peace process. This document was thoroughly discussed and debated during the previous rounds. Still, much discussion at the current 10th round of talks has been devoted to this document. But, whenever discussions begin to address Article Five of the document—the one pertaining to withdrawal—things stumble and the Israeli side becomes unable to provide answers. The Israeli side demonstrates procrastination and prevarication and uses the flimsiest excuses to change the direction of the discussions.

Our delegation to the peace talks has felt that the Israeli side was not mandated to discuss the withdrawal issue, which is the most important issue of the burning regional conflict. It is only natural that any talk of peace and security, in the absence of an Israeli commitment to complete withdrawal, is going to be a waste of time. This is because the achievement of peace is contingent upon withdrawal. Certainly, there can be no peace unless Israel withdraws completely.

The same Israeli conduct has been seen on the Lebanese track of negotiations, albeit with more intensity. During the talks currently under way on the Lebanese track, Israeli negotiators have made public their refusal to comply with UN Security Council Resolution 425, which provides for complete and unconditional withdrawal from occupied southern Lebanon. Worse still, Israeli negotiators believe the issues of security and peace must assume precedence over all other issues. In other words, Lebanon is being asked to sign a peace treaty and accept what Israel calls security arrangements before the issue of withdrawal is even discussed.

As for the negotiations being conducted on the Palestinian track, the Israeli negotiators have refused to list the Jerusalem issue on the talks agenda. Likewise, they have refused to discuss the future of settlements built in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. They believe UN Security Council resolutions pertaining to the West Bank and Gaza Strip are deferrable and inapplicable.

In a nutshell, the negotiations being conducted on all these three tracks have shown that swallowing up the occupied territories is the Israelis' prime obsession and concern. As for the enormous U.S. financial aid extended to them, it has failed to curb their greed. Indeed, U.S. funds are, in effect, feeding this greed. This is because these funds have allowed the Israelis to build more settlements, to beef up existing settlements, and to finance the absorption of new settlers. As for the security pretexts being used by the Israelis, they are only meant to cover up for this greed. Israel has obtained a huge arsenal of weapons from the United States. Thanks to Western collusion, Israel has also managed to build a nuclear arms arsenal. Israel is occupying Arab territories and perpetrating every conceivable form of aggression. As for the Arabs, they are the party whose security, territories, and future are jeopardized. Nonetheless, it is Israel that is pushing its security obsessions into the Washington talks. Israel's discourse goes almost as follows: Let me keep control of the territories so that I can feel secure.

Israeli gimmicks are clear to all leaders of the international community, even though some are trying to camouflage them. The Arabs expected all these maneuvers and procrastination. Over the past 20 months, they warned the world community of all this. Only yesterday, the Arab delegations to the peace talks expressed the grave concern that the 10th round of talks could meet the same fate as the ninth round. By so doing, they put the U.S. Administration face-to-face with its responsibilities and promises. Israel has failed to heed the relevant UN Security Council resolutions, which were deemed the terms of reference for the peace process. It is deliberately wasting time and effort in a bid to render the Washington talks devoid of any meaningful content. There is no way to save the 10th round of talks from certain failure unless the United States intervenes effectively and honestly—a commitment that the United States has

so far failed to honor. If the third and last week of the 10th round ends without results, the consequences will seriously endanger the future of the peace process. Moreover, the credibility of the United States will suffer considerably. The Washington talks would not have convened in the first place had it not been for the U.S. commitments to establish a just and comprehensive settlement in the Middle East, based on the relevant UN Security Council resolutions and the principle of exchanging territory for peace.

Israeli Positions Criticized

JN2806153693 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 0445 GMT 28 Jun 93

[Press review]

[Text] In its editorial, AL-BA'TH discusses the pessimistic atmosphere surrounding the peace negotiations. The paper says: Peace talks will resume in Washington today in an atmosphere suggesting that there will be no breakthrough on the road to completing the peace process. According to all sources, this process is still on square one due to an Israeli position that rejects any commitment to the resolutions of international legitimacy. These resolutions provide for the inadmissibility of the continued occupation of Arab territories.

AL-BA'TH touches on each track of the peace talks. Regarding the Syrian track, AL-BA'TH points to Israel's official announcement that full withdrawal from the Golan is out of the question, even if Syria agrees to sign a peace treaty. Regarding the Lebanese track, AL-BA'TH notes: Israel is trying to blackmail Lebanon by making impossible proposals that Lebanon cannot accept because, in reality, they seek to legitimatize the current occupation of southern Lebanon.

Regarding the Palestinian track, AL-BA'TH says: It has been confirmed that Israel wants everything without giving anything in return. This proves Israel regards the West Bank and the Gaza Strip as Israeli territories, something Israel continually reiterates.

AL-BA'TH explains: Had Israel wished to establish a just, comprehensive, and genuine peace in the region, it would at least have responded to the U.S. plan on the Palestinian-Israeli track. This plan defines the status of Jerusalem as part of a lasting peace settlement.

AL-BA'TH adds: This is the toughest phase for Arabs in view of what they are being exposed to, especially since Israel did not join the peace process for the sake of peace.

Concluding its editorial, AL-BA'TH stresses the need for the highest level of coordination among the Arab parties participating in the peace process and for continued adherence to the main principles required to achieve real peace based on international resolutions, particularly Resolutions 242, 338, and 425. Therefore, a comprehensive solution should remain the basis of every attitude.

A TISHRIN editorial discusses the Israeli obstacle to the peace process. The editorial begins by pointing to U.S. dissatisfaction with the failure to reach a breakthrough in the current Arab-Israeli negotiations in Washington.

TISHRIN says: It is astonishing that the U.S. dissatisfaction was general and did not specify any party, despite the fact that Israel is the party that obstructs and rejects both the implementation of the Security Council resolution and the exchange of land for peace. Israel also refuses to abide by the fundamentals of the Madrid conference.

TISHRIN adds: While the Arabs were expecting decisive intervention by the U.S. Administration—which pledged to play the role of a full, fair, and honest partner that would set matters right—Israeli officials said its forces will never return to the 1967 borders and that Jerusalem is not subject to negotiation, whether during the transitional self-rule phase or in the final phase. These officials added that the Rabin government will not respond to any U.S. effort to discuss the status of Jerusalem at a later stage.

TISHRIN explains that there are legitimate questions about the role of the full, fair, and honest partner. This is because U.S. pressure should be applied to Israel. We, however, note U.S. pressure on the Palestinians to accept a self-rule proposal that does not satisfy the Palestinian people's ambitions and their brave intifadah.

TISHRIN adds: It is very important for the Americans to realize that the Arabs have offered everything for peace, that it is absolutely out of the question for the Arabs to offer Israel both peace and Arab territories, and that the Arabs reject offering any concessions to the expansionist, racist Zionism regarding Arab territories and rights. Such concessions will inevitably cause the collapse of the peace process and undermine confidence in international credibility.

Concluding, TISHRIN says: There should be dissatisfaction with Israel, coupled with tangible measures to oblige the Israeli rulers to abide by the Security Council resolutions and the requirements of the peace process, led by full withdrawal from the occupied territories and recognition of the Palestinian people's national rights.

Total Israeli Withdrawal Demanded

JN2906151193 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1130 GMT 29 Jun 93

[Station commentary]

[Text] Gentlemen: The 10th round has entered its third and final week with no signs of possible progress. The Israeli side continues to block the peace process and refuses to accept the principle of total withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories. Yitzhaq Rabin declared that the Israeli forces would never return to the June 1967 borders and that the status of Jerusalem would not be negotiated now or in the future, claiming it to be

Israel's eternal capital. Rabin also said that he was making efforts to reach peace with Syria without giving up the Golan, although it is futile to believe that Syria can be persuaded to achieve peace without some type of withdrawal from the occupied Syrian plateau.

Any observer following Middle East developments, might conclude from Rabin's statement that Israel insists on devouring part of the territories it occupied in 1967, including the Golan, and that total withdrawal, stipulated in Security Council resolutions, is not stated in any Israeli decision. Therefore, the success of the Washington talks hinges on how much the Arabs are ready to relinquish from their territories and rights and not on Israel's readiness to terminate its ongoing aggression.

Rabin might have spelled out half of the problem when he announced that it was illogical to believe that peace with Syria is possible without some type of withdrawal from the Golan. It is quite obvious that peace is impossible without total withdrawal from the Golan and without achieving a just settlement on all fronts of the conflict. The Golan is an eternal Syrian territory, and what befalls it will befall Syria as a whole. Moreover, the Golan has never been as deep in Syria's mind and soul as it is today.

Our people's struggle in the Golan is a source of pride for the homeland and the nation, and Syria will spare no sacrifice to regain the Golan, no matter how long it takes. The Golan will never be the subject of bargaining, and we will not relinquish an iota of its soil. The Israelis should realize this fact. They might have realized it, since they have tried over the past 20 month of talks in Washington to bypass the bases of the peace process and to reach, with no avail, unilateral solutions and partial withdrawals and settlements that have nothing to do with the desired peace in the region.

Syria is eager to return the Golan, as well as all the occupied territories, to their rightful owners and to end the suffering of the Syrian and Lebanese peoples. Hence, Syria sticks to the concept of a comprehensive settlement on all fronts. The Arab cause is one, and no force in the world can break the blood bond among the sons of the one homeland. There is no room for any Arab party to strike a unilateral deal with Israel at the expense of another party. Jerusalem is like the Golan, and southern Lebanon is like the West Bank. The solution should be either a comprehensive one leading to a total Israeli withdrawal or no solution at all.

By stating that he will not carry out a total withdrawal from the Golan and that he will retain Jerusalem, Rabin adds another obstacle to Israel's list of obstacle, which are preventing any significant progress in the Washington talks.

From the beginning, the Arabs explained to the United States and all parties in the international community that peace depends on Israel's total withdrawal and its recognition of Palestinian rights. The U.S. initiative, which led to the Madrid conference and the Washington talks, was based on the principle of land for peace and on Security Council resolutions that banned Israel from obtaining territory by force and that canceled all measures to annex and Judaize Jerusalem and the Golan.

Twenty months after the Madrid conference, Israel is still maneuvering and adding new obstacles to the old ones just because the United States has not translated its commitments and pledges, as well as the international community's desire to bring about a just peace, into action. Israel believes that it is above international law, that it is safe from punishment, and that despite its rebellion against international legitimacy, its crimes, and its human rights violations, it will continue to enjoy U.S. protection and financial and military aid. Hence, it openly scorns the Washington talks, which are locked in a vicious circle, or perhaps even retreating.

Radio Views Changes in U.S. Mideast Talks Team

JN2506185593 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1530 GMT 25 Jun 93

[Palestine Broadcast: "Abu-Salim's Talk"]

[Text] May God's peace, mercy, and blessings be upon you. We have learned that the U.S. Administration has decided to rearrange the work of the U.S. team working on the Middle East peace talks. Some members of this team have been replaced by others. This U.S. step, or measure, is of no great importance to us, as Arabs. Consequently, it is immaterial for Arabs, or for non-Arabs, for that matter, to look for domestic U.S. reasons prompting this measure. This is because this is a purely domestic U.S. affair. This means the Americans are free to form this team of theirs as they wish and as they see fit.

What we want to say is that this change in the composition of the U.S. team should have taken place in the immediate aftermath of the deadlock in the talks caused by Zionist stands, after everybody realized that the role and position of the U.S. team assigned the task of playing a role in the peace talks failed to live up to the hopes pinned on it, to shoulder the responsibilities borne by the U.S. Administration for the peace talks, and to honor the promises and pledges made by this administration in this regard. Similarly, this also should have taken place immediately after the U.S. Administration reiterated its determination to play the role of a full partner in the peace talks to help produce tangible results.

We, along with all peace-loving forces, must express our views on this issue. This is prompted by an eagerness to render the peace process a success through the full implementation of the relevant international resolutions, and through obtaining compliance with the terms of reference agreed upon for the peace process. It goes without saying that we are fully aware that the United States can influence Zionist positions. All this puts a host of responsibilities on the shoulders of the United States,

for reasons we all know. These reasons are related to the nature of the ties existing between the United States and the Zionist entity. Moreover, the United States is a cosponsor of the peace conference. After all, it is the United States that has led the peace process from the outset, given the peace initiative it launched to achieve peace in this part of the world.

As we have already noted, the rearrangement of the U.S. Middle East peace talks team is a purely U.S. domestic affair. However, we as Arabs as well as all peace-loving forces all over the world, would like to say that these changes should aim to make positive progress in the talks so the U.S. team can indeed play the role of a full partner in the peace talks by working to remove the obstacles and barriers obstructing progress in the talks, which have caused the talks to reach a deadlock.

We, along with all peace-loving forces all over the world, would like to see a necessary change in the performance of the U.S. team, regardless of the composition of this team. We, along with all peace-loving forces throughout the world, will follow and monitor the performance of the U.S. team, which is supposed to reflect the views of the U.S. Administration. Much of the results of the Arab-Israeli peace talks will be contingent upon the nature of the U.S. role and position. The results of the peace talks will also hinge on the way this role and this position are handled, on the extent of their conformity with the responsibilities borne by the United States, and also on how the U.S. role and position reflect U.S. credibility or lack of it vis-a-vis the peace process.

* Rabbi Hamra on Jewish Emigration, Status

93AA0106A London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 2 Jun 93 p 6

[Text] Damascus—The issue of Syrian Jews and their emigration from Syria returned again to the forefront of events two days ago when U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher expressed the United States' concern over the slowdown in the emigration of Syrian Jews this year compared to last year. In this regard, Secretary Christopher drew upon a statement issued by the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, which accuses Damascus of not honoring its commitment to permit Jews to leave the country.

However, Secretary Christopher stressed that this process has not stopped, but rather has slowed compared to before. He said that he will discuss this matter with Syrian officials.

A Syrian Interior Ministry official contacted by AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT regarding this subject emphasized that travel measures in effect for Syrian Jews have not changed. The official said that Syrian Jews are citizens with rights and duties like other citizens and that visas were granted last week to a number of persons who left the country.

He added that others have been issued visas but have not left the country, choosing instead to remain in Syria after learning of the conditions and difficulties of some who have already left the country. The most serious difficulty is unemployment. Another problem concerns the upgrading of professional qualifications. Physicians, even older physicians who have practiced in Syria for years, must return to school before qualifying to practice. The Syrian official said that the granting of visas has not, and will not, stop.

In a statement to AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT, the Chief Rabbi of the Syrian Jews, Ibrahim Hamra, said that Syria is still committed to the resolution promulgated by President Hafiz al-Asad, who enjoys substantial credibility among Syrian Jews. Rabbi Hamra added that visas and passports have been issued and continue to be issued from time to time. However, he did not deny that a slowdown has occurred in the granting of some visas. He said that the information making its way abroad is exaggerated. He believes that this has led some [Syrian] Jewish families in the United States, which have children in Syria who have not obtained passports, to feel frustration, despair, and anxiousness, and to believe that the Syrian resolution has been suspended, or that other, new measures are in place.

Rabbi Hamra said that this is what compelled the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations to request—in the statement which it issued—the intervention of the U.S. secretary of state. Rabbi Hamra said that this information [about a slowdown] is exaggerated. He said, "We do not want to disrupt or shake the confidence which Syrian Jews feel after being allowed to travel abroad." He added, "We hope that the matter will end without being politicized, and that every individual is given full freedom."

Rabbi Hamra, the leader of the Jewish community in Damascus, said, "Measures for granting passports and exit visas to Syrian Jews were implemented 10 days after we met with President al-Asad, who received us with magnanimity, affection, and a smile, which did not leave his face throughout the meeting. The authorities began to allow families to travel without exception, because the decision covered all family members. A passport is valid for six years and a number of trips. One does not have to leave a deposit of a monetary surety with a Syrian bank until returning to Syria, as was done in the past."

Rabbi Hamra said that these measures were taken to reunite Jewish families or to facilitate travel abroad to study, work, or obtain medical treatment, in the same manner as members of all denominations in Syria who travel abroad. Sometimes they remain there for 30 to 40 years before returning to the mother country, like the al-Qalamun [name as published] family, most of which has returned to settle and establish investment projects in Syria.

He said that, during his tour in the United States, Canada, and Europe, he found that a large segment of the

[Syrian Jewish] community [abroad] is suffering from growing unemployment. He added, "In my personal opinion, Syria is now experiencing an opening and an economic boom. There are many broad areas for investment and industrialization. I hope that Jews will return to participate in them and that peace will prevail in the region."

Asked whether his remarks clearly mean that he wants Syrian Jews to return to participate in investment activities, he replied, "That is correct. However, I do not deny that many members of the community who have traveled abroad and who still have relatives and children in Syria who have been unable to obtain passports and visas, were overcome by fear and frustration when they sensed a slowdown in the rate at which visas are being granted in recent months, compared to the 20 to 30 visas which we obtained daily after the resolution was promulgated in April 1992." He added, "I want to stress that many want to obtain passports and visas, not to travel, but because they wish to feel free becauses they can now move and travel at any time they wish. It can also be said that many who left Syria are actually thinking of returning. But the recent measures, described as a slowdown, have made them fear they will not be able to leave Syria again in an emergency, as if the right which they have obtained has been rescinded and we were telling them, 'do not return to Syria, because you will not be able to travel again.' [This fear is] especially [understandable] inasmuch as some families that were permitted to travel want some of their children to join them, but the children have been unable to obtain exit visas with the same ease as other members of their families." He said, "This [fear] is what has blown out of proportion the slowdown in granting of visas granting and 'made a mountain out of a molehill.' The perception abroad is that the resolution may have been rescinded. However, let me confirm that a number of members of the community traveled a week ago. The slowdown stems from what caused the disturbance and exaggeration of matters and prompted us, regrettably, to again raise the subject of the Jews of Syria."

As to whether he has contacted Syrian officials in this regard, he said, "We have held a number of meetings, and we have done what we must. The response was that the reason for this [slowdown] has to do with red tape and the bureaucracy. However, I say with regret that members of the community no longer accept these excuses and statements from me. Or, they believe them and attempt to ascertain whether the red tape will take a month or two as opposed to a year or more. This is what has embarrassed me with the community. In my personal opinion, any individual of any denomination should have the right to travel by merely submitting an application to travel and obtaining [authorization for] that in a timely manner, and a Jew living in Syria should feel secure. This is what we raised with President al-Asad, and this is what he emphasized to us. The right of a Jew in Syria is like the right of a Jew in France, Britain, Mexico, and Argentina. During my tour of those countries, I noticed an increase in the number of Jews there, because they face no problems and can move at any moment."

Rabbi Hamra said, "I do not want any member of the Jewish community in Syria to obtain a visa and passport, while another protests and asks why he has not been treated similarly. This has given us many problems. Nonetheless, I am constantly trying to convince them that their turn will come. However, the extreme slowness of the process of issuing visas has embarrassed me in front of them, although I know that the Syrian authorities are meticulously implementing the resolution promulgated by the president."

Asked about the longest period in which no Syrian Jew obtained a visa, he responded, "The slowdown started about seven months ago, and authorizations are now being given again, albeit slowly. We obtained eight approvals last week, meaning four approvals per week." Nevertheless, he said, "I am optimistic. What I would like to explain is that I do not want the Jewish Syrian citizen to feel that obtaining an exit visa has reverted to being just a dream."

Regarding the number of Jews who have left Syria since the resolution was promulgated, he said, "After the resolution was promulgated, 2,600 left Syria from three cities, Damascus, Halab [Aleppo], and al-Qamishli. However, 100 of them have returned. There are now 1,100 in Damascus, more than 100 in Halab, and more than 100 in al-Qamishli. Many who have obtained travel authorizations have not traveled, and I do not believe that they are thinking of traveling."

Regarding the profile of Jews leaving Syria, he said, "They include intellectuals, physicians, pharmacists, merchants, and a large number of poor people and women, especially girls who are traveling for marriage opportunities. Jewish, Syrian girls are more sought in America, because America has long had a very strong, large, community of Syrian Jews. That community prefers eastern girls, because it still preserves its customs and traditions."

Rabbi Hamra emphasized that no one among those who left Syria has gone to Israel, and that most of them have gone to Mexico, Argentina, Venezuela, and America.

He also emphasized that those living in Syria still lead a normal life, enjoy freedom, and work in all fields. He said that the community is involved in selling ready-made clothes. There are also dentists, pharmacists, small businessmen, tradesmen, and specialists in copper engraving, a craft practiced exclusively by members of the Mosaic denomination. As for students, they are continuing their university studies. We have one physician per every 75 persons, which he said is a very high rate.

Rabbi Hamra will leave Damascus tomorrow for the United States to take part in several weddings of members of the community who left Syria a year ago. He said, "I will explain to American officials and to Jews in America the reality of the good situation and the freedom which Jewish citizens experience in Syria, because I am zealous for my homeland, my denomination, and my country, Syria."

He said that Syrian Jews are hoping to participate in Syrian investments. He said that some of them are already involved in investments, e.g., Jacques Baqis, Yusuf Jajati, and Farah Humrah.

He said that he will stress to Syrian Jews in America that the travel resolution granted by President al-Asad will not be suspended and will not be changed, and that the bureaucratic measures will end. Rabbi Hamra asked AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT to extend greetings on his behalf to President Hafiz al-Asad and the Islamic nation on the occasion of the blessed holiday of 'Id al-Adha [Feast of Immolation] . He said, "We are looking forward to a bright day when true peace reigns in the region." Rabbi Hamra spoke of the situation of Jews in Morocco. He said, "Their numbers are increasing because of their enjoyment of full rights and freedom there." He said that the Jews of Yemen still suffer some hardships.

Yesterday, Syria expressed the view that Israel has mobilized the Zionist lobby in the world to launch a campaign of lies against Syria on the pretext that the Syrian Government has retreated from its decision to permit Jewish citizens to travel abroad like all other Syrian citizens. In a political analysis, the newspaper TISHRIN said that the Zionist lobby has mobilized its supporters in the U.S. Congress and the European Parliament in Strasbourg, even though no change has occurred with respect to travel measures. TISHRIN also published a letter sent by a Jewish citizen in Mexico to a friend in Halab. In the letter, he underscores his extreme physical and psychological distress by way of mentioning his lack of friends. He said, "I have wearied of life. I so miss the home soil of Halab and my many friends. How I wish to return!"

Afghanistan

Cease-Fire Monitoring Commission Dissolved

BK2806123493 Hong Kong AFP in English 1208 GMT 28 Jun 93

[By Terence White]

[Text] Kabul, June 28 (AFP)—The ceasefire monitoring commission set up in war-torn Kabul to help preserve the fragile peace in the Afghan capital has been dissolved due to continued violations of the truce, a commission member said Monday [28 June].

"The ceasefire commission finished on Saturday because of the daily shelling of the capital," General Muslim said.

Doctors at four Kabul hospitals and clinics said a total of 63 wounded had been admitted since Sunday morning. Of these 18 were injured when a rocket exploded inside the Interior Ministry compound, also killing two people.

The commission of representatives of the various Afghan factions was set up after a ceasefire was agreed in the eastern provincial capital of Jalalabad following 10 days of fierce fighting for control of Kabul between forces loyal to President Borhanoddin Rabbani and those of Golboddin Hekmatyar, now prime minister.

In Kabul Sunday some members of the ceasefire commission announced in a press conference that the Shiite Muslim allies of Hekmatyar were solely responsible for violating the Jalalabad peace accords.

But 'Abdol 'Ali Mazari, head of the Shiite Hezb-e Wahdat [Islamic Unity] faction whose armed guerrillas occupy most of south Kabul, told journalists that his people were also suffering indiscriminate bombardment from forces loyal to Rabbani.

"I do not deny that we shoot rockets into the city but we are obliged to respond against those who fire at us," he said.

Mazari claimed that his men tried to contact their opponents by radio and ask them to stop firing, but when they got no reply, they retaliated, after which there were reconciliation talks.

"We have to respond in order to motivate them to respect the ceasefire," Mazari said.

Mazari said the Shiites were observing a traditional religious mourning period, when they especially tried to avoid fighting, but 150 rockets and mortar rounds were fired at them while his people were pre-occupied with their rites.

Mazari also claimed 50 Shiites were killed and wounded Saturday when a convoy travelling to a local mosque was fired on from hill-top posts occupied by Defence Ministry troops nominally under Rabbani's command.

Part of the Jalalabad agreement was the resignation of Ahmad Shah Mas'ud from his powerful Defence Ministry post, a political compromise which enabled Hekmatyar's cabinet selection to meet final acceptance from all the nine main mojahedin faction leaders.

In Mas'ud's place a joint-faction commission under President Rabbani was set-up to administer the Defence Ministry for a two- month period, after which a special council of mojahedin commanders drawn from all 29 Afghan provinces would convene to elect a new defence minister.

It was also decided at Jalalabad that all heavy weapons—mostly long-range rockets and mortars—should be collected from the warring factions but Mazari said Wahdat would only surrender them to "a national ministry of defence", not the current defence commission.

Mazari expressed concern that Wahdat members of the defence commission could not attend the commission meetings because they had no confidence in the security of central Kabul.

The Wahdat leader cited last Wednesday's harassment of cabinet members by a group of pro-Defence Ministry troops as evidence that Kabul was not safe for them to travel.

Following last Monday's blockade of the main city route to the first scheduled cabinet meeting in south Kabul, 10 cabinet members set off in convoy by a circular route to their destination but were stopped at the military academy 10 kilometres (six miles) east of Kabul, and interrogated for 90 minutes before being released.

Mazari said Wahdat bodyguards were beaten up, and 20 weapons and a jeep were confiscated, which have not yet been returned.

In face of this mutual distrust, continued ceasefire violations and lack of real cooperation in attempts at meaningful government, the prognosis for peace in Kabul is seen as poor.

Seven Killed in Kabul Missile Attacks 25 June

LD2506165493 Kabul Radio Afghanistan Network in Pashto 1530 GMT 25 Jun 93

[Text] Seven persecuted and defenseless citizens of Kabul were martyred and 19 others were injured when 35 missiles and mortar shells landed today in Kabul city. A responsible security source told a BAKHTAR INFORMATION AGENCY correspondent that these missiles and mortar shells were fired from the southwest direction of the city and landed on the first, second, fourth, fifth, ninth, and 10th wards of the city, causing heavy material losses in addition to loss of life. Two houses were destroyed in the fourth ward.

Further Attacks Kill 13

LD2806161893 Kabul Radio Afghanistan Network in Pashto 1530 GMT 28 Jun 93

[Text] As many as 35 SAKAR rockets and mortar shells were fired last night into the residential areas of Kabul, as a result of which 13 of our innocent and faithful compatriots were martyred and 14 others were injured. [Words indistinct] landed in wards [words indistinct] four, five, nine, and 11 of Kabul where they caused heavy material damage in addition to loss of life. Five houses were destroyed in different wards. The security source added that no report of rocket firing has been received today.

Bangladesh

Spokesman Expresses 'Deep Regret' Over Iraqi Deaths

BK2806150293 Dhaka Radio Bangladesh Network in Bengali 1430 GMT 28 Jun 93

[Text] Bangladesh is closely monitoring the situation in view of the U.S. missile attack on Baghdad, a Foreign Office spokesman said in Dhaka today. Asked to comment on the attack, the spokesman expressed deep regret over the loss of life and hoped that the situation will not deteriorate. The spokesman stressed the imperative need for the parties concerned parties to abide by the principles of the UN Charter and the norms of international law.

Opposition Wants Debate; U.S. Flag Burned

BK2806151493 Hong Kong AFP in English 1214 GMT 28 Jun 93

[Excerpts] Dhaka, June 28 (AFP)—Bangladesh on Monday [28 June] expressed "deep concern" over the loss of life in Iraq following Sunday's missile attack by the United States that left at least six people dead. [passage omitted]

Earlier Monday official sources told AFP that Dhaka hoped Iraq and the U.S could settle the issue peacefully through the United Nations.

Iraq has said six civilians were killed in the attack.

Dhaka had sided with the U.S. coalition during the Gulf war, but since then had been slowly mending fences with Iraq, where a large number of Bangladeshis are employed.

Meanwhile, two major Bangladesh opposition groups Monday demanded a debate on the issue.

Terming the attack as an "aggressing on Iraq", Matiur Rahman Nizami of the fundamentalist Jamaat-e-Islami party told the house that a unanimous resolution condemning the U.S. for the attack should be adopted.

"The United States had launched an offensive aganst Iraq on flimsy grounds to satisfy Israel," Nizami was quoted as saying by the official BSS news agency.

Saluddin Yusuf of the main opposition Awami League supported Nizami's demand for a debate on the issue and accused Prime Minister Khaleda Zia's government of maintaining a double standard on such issues.

"When the house could condemn the attack on the Moslems in Bosnia-Herzegovina, why not the U.S. raid on Baghdad could be discussed," he added.

House Deputy Speaker Humayun Khan Panni did not immediately allow the debate, citing procedural rules on prior notice.

Several smaller Bangladeshi political groups, including one faction of the Communist Party of Bangladesh and the Muslim fundamentalist Khelafat Majlish, in separate statements termed the attack a violation of human rights.

They said it was against international law and an act of aggression on an independent and sovereign state.

Meanwhile, witnesses said some 100 supporters of the Islami Chatro Majlish Monday burned the U.S. flag in downtown Dhaka. The group shouted slogans condemning Washington for its "barbarous" act against Iraq.

India

Spokesman Concerned Over Violation of Iraqi Sovereignty

BK2806144493 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1430 GMT 28 Jun 93

[Text] Reacting to the American missile attack on Baghdad, a spokesman of the External Affairs Ministry said in New Delhi today that India supports action against state-sponsored terrorism, but is concerned about the violation of national sovereignty. The spokesman pointed out that violation of national sovereignty in the West Asia region will affect on the peace prospects in the area.

Commentary Decries U.S. Stand on Russian Engine Sale

BK2806113893 Delhi All India Radio General Overseas Service in English 1010 GMT 28 Jun 93

[Commentary by Brahma Dutt]

[Text] The Russian prime minister, who was scheduled to visit the U.S. on 20 June to 29 June, has indefinitely postponed the visit as a mark of protest against America's single-minded pursuit of confrontation with Russia over the latter's plan to sell cryogenic rocket engines and the attendance technology to India. It is a well-known fact that when India first approached the United States,

Britain, and Russian companies for rocket engines, transfer of technology was a part of the deal. The United States cannot now pretend to wake up suddenly and cliam that although they might be able to live with the rocket engine sale, they would consider sale of the technology a clear violation of the Missile Technology Control Regime [MTCR]. In fact, India had found Russian offer cheaper in comparison to the U.S., UK, and French offers. Still, as an act of highhandedness, the U.S. has already imposed sanctions on the Indian Space Research Organization [ISRO] and the Glav Kosmos, the Russian space agency which is the supplier of the engine at a cost of $400 million.

America also fully knows that contract has no defense application at all. The cryogenic engine is intended to be the final booster in weather satellite launches. It is a liquid fuel rocket that is never used for missile purposes. Besides, India already possesses some of the largest solid fuel rockets suitable for missile technology. Why should India then start a futile exercise of starting from scratch with the cryogenic rocket, which has never been used for missile launches anywhere in the world? To make matters worse, the United States has threatened to impose additional sanctions on Russia for grabbing Indian contracts for cryogenic engines at a rate much cheaper than American rates. During Russian Deputy Premier Aleksandr Shokhin's meeting with U.S. officials in Washington last week, the U.S. went to the extent of offering to practically compensate Russia for canceling the cryogenic rocket engine deal with India. But Russia has hitherto, persisted in fulfilling its commitments. Russia has, however, offered an international examination of its contract with India. But America continues to use the language of ultimatums to seek violations of bilateral agreements with India. This is despite Indian prime minister, P.V. Narsimha Rao's, meeting with the U.S. vice president and other senior U.S. officials during his stay in Washington between 9 June and 11 June and explaining the whole issue. Even ISRO Chairman U.R. Rao failed to make the Clinton administration see reason and lift sanctions imposed on 11 May last year. To put increasing pressure on Russia, the U.S. has asked President Boris Yeltsin to come to Tokyo for the G-7 summit.

Not content with unwarranted pressure on Russia, the U.S. tacit pressure on India too is mounting to induce it to abort the contract voluntarily. The Missile Technology Control Regime is basically a (?door) in the major policy adopted by a small group of nations who possess missile technology and are determined to see that others do not obtain it. It is blatantly unfair and discriminatory. Like the nuclear suppliers club that preceded it, the MTCR is just a cartel to which the U.S. has unilaterally ascribed the legitimacy of an international agreement. In fact, the sinister game behind the whole exercise is to prevent lucrative space contracts going to Russia. With the end of the Cold War and a general scaling down of military [expenditure], America wants to capture through all means civilian space rocket launching market to check further unemployment in America. But this kind of pressure tactics would become counterproductive and would affect American economic interests that India offers with liberalization of its economic regime. The U.S. has no legal, moral, or scientific rights to expect the sovereign nations around the world to abide by the rules made by the U.S. Congress for their benefit at the cost of others.

Foreign Secretary on Outcome of PRC Border Talks

BK2806160293 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1530 GMT 28 Jun 93

[Text] India and China have agreed on a step-by-step approach to resolve the boundary question. They have agreed that there should be mutual transparency on the location of military positions along the line of actual control and exchange of information on the military activities. At the sixth round of Joint Working Group meeting in New Delhi, the two countries discussed the steps to be taken to enhance confidence and ensure peace and tranquillity along the line of actual control. The measures include prior notification of military exercises, prevention of air intrusions, and redeployment of forces along the line of actual control.

The foreign secretary, J.N. Dixit, led the Indian delegation, while the vice foreign minister, Mr. Tang Jiaxuan, the visiting side.

Addressing a news conference, Mr. Dixit said that the two countries affirmed that there are possibilities of expanding bilateral relations in the field of technology, space, agriculture and commerce. They agreed in principle to open one more more border trading post at Shipkilah in Himachal Pradesh, in addition to the existing one at Lipu Lake.

The foreign secretary said that indications are that the prime minister may visit China in the first week of September.

Mr. Dixit said there are differences of views on the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty, but Beijing does not make any specific suggestion in this regard.

On India's concern at the supply of Chinese arms to Pakistan, the Chinese delegation explained that Beijing's policy of arms sales is not directed against third countries.

Chinese Role in Pakistan's Defense Buildup Viewed

BK2606110993 Delhi INDIAN EXPRESS in English 20 Jun 93 p 12

[Text] New Delhi—Pakistan's annual defence budget needs to he viewed in more broader terms than rising statistics. Procurement of conventional hardware at concessional rates through defence cooperations, strategic

alliances and easy missiles technology transfers are unaccounted invisible factors which have contributed to the rapidly increasing Pakistani armoury, according to official defence sources.

Pakistan's 1993-94 defence allocation is 34.6 per cent of its total budgetary expenditure outlay and is 7.1 per cent higher than the previous year's allocation. Considering that in the previous years it has been rising annually at nearly 10 per cent, the present defence budget is a decline in real terms

This is both on account of overall domestic economic conditions and that it will be politically unwise for Pakistan to register defence budget increase considering that the IMF review is slated for July-end," observed Maj Gen D. Banerji, deputy-director Institute of Defence Studies and Analyses (IDSA). However, the revised budget estimates are likely to register an increase in defence allocations in coming months because of pressures from the military," the general added. [quotation marks as published]

Official sources draw attention to the increased defence cooperation between Pakistan and China—both in conventional hardware and missiles technology—on concessional terms. The military cooperation includes an agreement on a joint main battle tank (MBT-2000), signed between the Heavy Rebuild Factory at Taxila and Chinese North Industries Corporation .

Amongst others are the overhaul facilities for Mi-8 helicopters, supply of Chinese Type 653 armoured recovery vehicles, already in service with Pakistan Army, assistance in indigenous production of Red Arrow-8 anti-tank missiles with ranges of 3,000 m, support for enhancing the operational and engineering capabilities of the Pakistan Air Force, including technology transfers and joint development of K-8 tandem seat basic jet trainer.

More significant has been the selling of a 300 mw nuclear reactor to Pakistan and the development in the two short-range ballistic missiles, Hatf-l and 2. Also acquired was the latest technology of multi-mode guidance system with proximity fuse. greater range, speed and accuracy to manufacture an entirely new shoulder fired SAM (Chinese version of SAM-7), which Pakistan has boasted would be an improved version of the US Stinger missile.

Stockbroker's Latest Allegations Against Rao Rejected

BK2906043293 Delhi Doordarshan Television Network in English 1615 GMT 28 Jun 93

[Text] Stockbroker Harshad Mehta, the prime accused in the security scam, today released an audiotape to newsmen in Bombay. The tape, he claims, contains the recording of a conversation between him and Mr. Sunil Mittal, son of the former Rajya Sabha MP, the late Mr. Satpal Mittal. An official spokesman told newsmen in New Delhi today that the latest set of pages released by Harshad Mehta is no different from the statements and affidavits given to the press earlier, which is a part of a strategy to divert attention from the main scam in which Harshad Mehta is the principal accused.

Releasing copies of documents, the spokesman said Harshad Mehta's claim that he met the prime minister at 1045 on 4 November 1991 is totally false as can be seen from the prime minister's office reception register. At exactly 1045 that day, the prime minister was receiving a Pakistani delegation as is borne out by the visitors' register at the prime minister's South Block office. The prime minister's engagements that morning make it amply clear that he had moved out of his house at Race Course Road at 0911 and returned at 1315. The South Block reception register of the prime minister's office shows that the Pakistani delegation arrived earlier and met him around 1045 and after they left, there were a series of appointments with individuals, including Mr. Jag Mohan. The statement says that the Delhi police keep meticulous reports of the movements of the prime minister. Not only his actual movements are recorded in the [word indistinct] register, but it also includes next day's program which is released on the earlier night for necessary arrangements on the following day. The prime minister was in the South Block from 1000 to 1314, which is recorded by the police logbook.

[In a related report, Delhi All India Radio Network in English at 0245 GMT on 29 June adds: "Mr. Sunil Mittal, son of late Rajya Sabha member Mr. Satpal Mittal, has described Harshad Mehta's audiotape as a crude attempt of fabrication. In a statement in New Delhi, he said the transcript does not have any semblance to a plausible conversation. Mr. Mittal said that he is consulting his lawyers to take action to seek redressal for the hurt caused to him by Mehta's allegation."]

Party Spokesman Comments

BK2906130893 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1230 GMT 29 Jun 93

[Text] The Congress-I has said that all the allegations made by stockbroker Harshad Mehta are beneath contempt. Briefing newspersons in New Delhi today, the party spokesman, Mr. V.N. Gadgil, said what Harshad Mehta produced in the press conference at Bombay yesterday is a (?squib). The tape conversation is not a natural one and the incoherent words clearly show that it was manufactured, doctored, and fabricated. He said the demonstration of the bag by Mehta was equally unconvincing as he used notes of only 500 rupees denomination. On the other hand, the government has produced irrefutable records that no such meeting took place between the prime minister and Harshad Mehta on 4 November 1991. Mr. Gadgil described the whole press conference as a flop and anticlimax. He said all the evidence show that Harshad Mehta had submitted a false affidavit.

When pressmen about any legal action by the party, Mr. Gadgil said it will be considered only after Mehta deposes before the JPC [Joint Parliamentary Committee]. He said the party has kept all its options open.

'Top Militant' Killed in Punjab 26 Jun

BK2706050693 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0435 GMT 27 Jun 93

[Text] In Punjab, top militant Swaran Singh was killed and a head constable injured in an encounter with security forces near Rahimpur village in Jullundur District last night. According to the district police chief, Swaran Singh—responsible for over 100 killings—carried a reward of 5 lakh rupees on his head. One AK-47 rifle, two bombs, and four detonators were recovered from the site of the encounter. Elsewhere in the state, two militants were killed in Jagraon area of Ludhiana District and one each in Amritsar and Gurdaspur Districts.

Six, Including Three Soldiers, Killed in Kashmir

BK2706160493 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1530 GMT 27 Jun 93

[Text] In Jammu and Kashmir, six persons, including three security personnel, were killed in two separate incidents in Doda District today. According to an official spokesman, two security forces personnel were killed when militants resorted to heavy firing during a search operation in the upper reaches of (Ashudhar) area. In Kishtwad town, three people were killed in cross-firing after militants fired upon the security forces killing one and injuring another. Militants kidnapped eight students from a hostel of the Jhelum Valley Medical College in Srinagar last night.

Army Extends Goodwill Operation to Entire Kashmir State

BK2506161693 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1530 GMT 25 Jun 93

[Text] The Jammu and Kashmir government today dismissed 14 officers of Anantnag district from service. These officers were responsible for an over 8-crore-rupee embezzlement. They include a former deputy commissioner who is absconding.

Meanwhile, the Operation Goodwill launched by the Army in the border areas is to be extended to the entire state. It is aimed at encouraging people to take up small projects and participate in the developmental and civic activities. This will also help bring back the misguided youth into the mainstream. An overwhelming response from the people in the border areas prompted the Army to extend the operation to the entire state.

Operations To Flush Out 'Militants'

BK2706053693 Delhi Doordarshan Television Network in English 1615 GMT 26 Jun 93

[Text] In Jammu and Kashmir, more militants from Srinagar and its surrounding areas have started surrendering to security forces after the BSF [Border Security Force] stepped up its cordon and search operations. Our correspondent says that even in congested areas of Srinagar, these operations have proved to be as effective and smooth as in rural areas.

[Begin unidentified correspondent recording] The area is completely cordoned off and all male members are assembled in an open area. Each house is then thoroughly searched. In the open ground, militants are identified from the assembled group and taken away for further investigation. Care is taken, however, to ensure that the public is not inconvenienced. The old, infirm, women, and children can stay back in their houses. Women and children are also allowed to supply water and food to the waiting group while the search operation is on. This particular cordon and search operation yielded swift results—10 suspected militants nabbed. Each house is searched by the BSF personnel in the presence of the local police, lady police officers, and a magistrate. (?BSF) operations continue relentlessly in an effort to flush out militants and restore normalcy in this beautiful part of the country. [end recording]

Iran

Yazdi Demands 'Appropriate' UN Response to U.S. Raid

LD2806155593 Tehran IRIB Television First Program Network in Persian 1430 GMT 28 Jun 93

[Excerpt] In a meeting of judiciary officials today, Mohammad Yazdi, the head of the judiciary, spoke about the U.S. missile attack on Baghdad and drew the attention of so-called defenders of human rights to the blatant violation of the rights of civilian and innocent people, who were massacred as a result of the attack.

The head of the judiciary also called on the UN Security Council and other international organizations to take approriate action, free from any kind of political influence, in response to this willful action carried out against recognized laws and regulations. [passage omitted]

Rowhani Condemns Raid on Baghdad, Notes U.S. 'Enmity'

LD2906071093 Tehran IRNA in English 0632 GMT 29 Jun 93

[Text] Semnan, June 29, IRNA—Secretary of the National Security Council Hasan Rowhani here Monday [28 June] frowned at the U.S. missile attack against Baghdad Sunday saying the audacious and arbitrary act by the U.S. had disreputed the U.N. Security Council. He also scoffed at Warren Christopher's observations

that threatened a similar action on Iran and said "such stupid remarks are merely evidence of Mr Christopher's ignorance and his improper interpretation of political issues."

"Today," he said, "the Americans are unmistakably and absolutely erring in their judgements. Today the United States is no longer the leader of the world, and no one in the East or in the West heeds the words of the United States."

He said the Islamic Republic will have to face new challenges at the international level and is already well prepared to meet those challenges.

Rowhani who is also vice speaker of the Majles said the Iranians were happy to witness that the enmity of the United States with the Islamic revolution had become transparent. He added that the Islamic Republic was bracing up to face the problems in consequence of that enmity. Referring to the internal situation he said both the economic and the national security situation in Iran fared well.

Elsewhere adverting to the outlawed Mojahedin-e Khalq Organization (MKO) that advocate armed struggle with the Iranian Government he said from now on the Islamic Republic would launch pre-emptive attacks against them rather than wait to act in a defensive position.

The official also paid tribute to the group of 72 Iranian public officials who lost their lives in a bomb blast at the headquarters of the Islamic Republic Party in Tehran this day in 1982.

Media Comment on U.S Raid on Baghdad

Papers Condemn Raid

LD2806123793 Tehran IRNA in English 1201 GMT 28 Jun 93

[Text] Tehran, June 28, IRNA—Three morning dailies Monday [28 June] editorialized on yesterday's U.S. missile attack on Baghdad and condemned Washington's self-styled punishment.

U.S. President Bill Clinton said in a televised speech yesterday that he had ordered the cruise missile strike on Baghdad because of Iraq's role in the alleged assassination plot against the former U.S. President George Bush during his visit to Kuwait.

The Persian daily 'JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI' termed the U.S. act as restoration of the "law of jungle" and said firing of 23 Tomahawk missiles on Baghdad was in conditions under which there was no way for the other party to defend itself. The paper also considered the U.S. act as "unjustified" both technically and militarily.

It termed the U.S. claim that its strike was an act of "self-defence" as stipulated in the U.N. Charter an "improper interpretation of the U.N. Charter" and exploitatation of the situation.

"If such a right is reserved for the U.S., other countries too have the right to punish Washington for crimes the Americans have committed and will do so against their citizens,"the daily noted.

Another Persian daily 'ABRAR' also condemned the U.S. for its attack on Iraq and said the U.S. move was aimed, among other things, at granting self-confidence to the world community to move against Iraq and pave the ground for future attacks on other parts of the world. Diverting the American public opinion from internal problems could be listed among other targets of the U.S. recent move, added the article.

It said the U.S. attack was a gross violation of national sovereignty of a country and concluded that vesting hope in international organizations was futile.

Commenting on the same subject, the English daily 'TEHRAN TIMES' said, "this is not the first time the White House rulers have violated all international laws and regulations. Their record of repeated transgressions and violations of the international laws have by now become part of their imperialistic culture."

It also criticized London's endorsement of Clinton's act saying "the action of the leaders in London, who supported Clinton's decision without offering any legal justification and in total and blind obedience to Washington, did not really surprise anybody. They have been doing that all through the past decade." The paper argued "no legal system in the world will endorse punishment of an accused before a fair trial is conducted and no tribunal will permit any government to act as a self-styled execu'ioner and wreak death and devastation on civilian residential areas in retaliation for an alleged assassinaiton which has not taken place."

It termed the act as "gross violation of the international laws" adding that "the world community should rise in protest. As a matter of fact, it is because of the weak policies adopted by the United Nations and its feeble secretary general that gave Clinton and the other American leaders the free hand in the conduct of their international tyranny, and made it possible for them to announce to the world that they will strike first and then go to the international tribunal, that is, the United Nations and receive their reward." "Under such circumstances, could anyone really claim that the United Nations and the Security Council are not mere tools or toys?" it concluded.

U.S. Justification Faulted

LD2806121593 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 1000 GMT 28 Jun 93

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] In the early hours of this morning the UN Security Council convened an extraordinary session to discuss America's missile attack against Iraq and declare its

position. The Security Council session was convened at America's proposal in the wake of the missile attack on Baghdad. America proposed to hold the session to justify its action against Iraq and thereby gain the Security Council's approval for its missile attack.

With the convening of the Security Council session, America's permanent envoy to the UN declared her country's stances in a letter addressed to the Security Council. Resorting to seemingly legal reasons, the American UN representative tried to present her government's willful action, which took place without authority from the Security Council, as a legitimate act.

America's UN envoy stated that the missile attack on Iraq was in accordance with Article 51 of the UN Charter and that it was an act of self-defense. America's reasoning is that Iraq had set out on an illegal attempt to assassinate the former American president, and America—using the right of legitimate defense, which the UN Charter has reserved for nations—acted in self-defense.

America claims that three months ago, when George Bush was visiting Kuwait, Iraq plotted to assassinate him, but the plot was foiled before producing any result. Even before the Security Council session was convened, America's allies were justifying that country's action, calling it a just and appropriate measure for confronting terrorism. Given this attitude, their votes in the Security Council will be in America's favor, but as far as legal frameworks are concerned, America's mode of reasoning for justifying its missile attack on Iraq does not enjoy a solid basis.

The action of a country under the pretext of legitimate self-defense, as stated in Article 51 of the UN Charter, can only be accepted when conditions which permit such actions receive full consideration. Experts in legal matters hold that a country's action is considered legitimate defense only when such an action takes place as a response in the course of an onslaught by an aggressor. This condition is not present in America's action, which is said to have taken place in response to Iraq's attack against the American citizens.

If, as America itself claims, the reason behind the attack against Iraq was to retaliate against George Bush's assassination [as heard], America has in fact retaliated against a hypothetical plot against one of its citizens which took place three months ago, a plot which was, after all, unsuccessful. The American response to a hypothetical plot seems to have had a three-month lag. Can this act be considered self-defense?

On the other hand, supposing that conditions for taking an action as legitimate self-defense had been present, then a sense of proportion between the actions of the aggressors and the defenders should have been present. Simply with the excuse that the assassination of one of its citizens was about to be carried out, America fired 23 missiles against a single country. America claims that it targeted the Iraqi intelligence center, but reports indicate that missiles hit residential areas in Iraq, killing a number of civilians.

The Americans themselves have confirmed the deaths of six civilians in Baghdad. According to the article on legitimate self-defense and human rights considerations, civilians should be protected from attacks. Thus, even assuming that the measure taken by America was based on legitimate self-defense, the Clinton administration is responsible for the deaths of civilians.

Also, Article 51 of the UN Charter deems it necessary to resort to legitimate self-defense only at a time when appropriate nonmilitary measures have been used to punish an aggressor. If these measures do not bear fruit, military action may be taken. The action taken by America occurred out of the blue and without any prior warning.

The American envoy has justified the action by saying the following: In our opinion, economic and diplomatic measures could not have brought Saddam to order; we therefore decided to attack.

Does a thwarted plot also require that the plotter be brought to order? In view of all this, the question is: Does the Security Council exist to endorse actions which have already been taken, or is it meant to prevent threats to international peace and security by putting the behavior of governments within a legal framework?

America embarked on its missile attacks against Iraq before informing the Security Council about its intentions; it only asked for a meeting of the Security Council afterward. In fact, America has turned its own political interests into its principles of action and has then tried to use an international organization to concoct a legal basis for its deeds.

If this kind of behavior gains currency, international laws and regulations will lose their purpose. This attitude will give rise to state terrorism, allowing big powers to act against weaker countries on the basis of absurd arguments. Before anything else, this will shake the foundations of institutions which have been established to place relations between governments within a legal framework toward the preservation of international peace and security.

Implications of Action Viewed

NC2906074393 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0345 GMT 29 Jun 93

[Commentary by the News Commentaries Group; from the "In the Margin of the News" feature]

[Text] Along with the favorable position taken by several U.S. allies, various countries, parties, groups, and newspapers throughout the world have broadly condemned the U.S. missile attack on Baghdad. Although many negative reactions to the U.S. act have been expressed

and public opinion has been roused against the United States, Bill Clinton has described the missile attack on Baghdad as a successful operation. The U.S. President has said that the attack on Baghdad was a warning to Saddam and a confrontation with terrorism, adding that terrorists throughout the world should know that there would be a decisive confrontation if they attempted an attack on the United States.

Experts believe that America's reference to confrontation with terrorism and to self-defense to justify the missile attack on Baghdad is so ambiguous and so extended in meaning that, if propagated, it could lead to a global revolt and could threaten international peace and stability. The United States violated Iraqi borders and attacked it with missiles on the pretext that a group had intended to assassinate the former president—a group that was arrested and prosecuted in the country where the attempt is said to have taken place and whose guilt has not yet been proven.

The question that arises is: If, on the pretext that an individual or a group intended to plot against a country or its citizens, each and every government disregarded international regulations and norms and ignored the institutions that have been established to solve differences and if it attacked another country, would there be any credibility for international laws that have been written to bring peace and stability and to ensure order in international society? The answer to this question is clearly no. Thus, even if we optimistically regard the U.S. intention as the United States itself describes it, as confronting terrorism, we have to say that the Clinton administration has deviated from the right path and that its attempt was an overt subterfuge. Resorting to such a method, which neither follows logic nor international norms, will itself propagate state terrorism—a terrorism which is far more violent, horrible, and uncontrollable and which will have no outcome but international chaos.

This is where the concern felt by the countries that have expressed their opposition to the U.S. action comes from. Confronting terrorism and assisting peace and stability are a humanitarian expression that governments throughout the world respect and it does not appear that there is any country that opposes this slogan. However, with the method that the United States has adopted, confronting terrorism is not only something that will not crush terrorism, but will intensify it.

In order to confront terrorism and to spread peace and stability, the world community should bolster international norms and institutions and not allow them to be exploited for the political interests of one or more governments. Therefore, any attempt that leads to disregard for or exploitation of these institutions and norms will only intensify terrorism and violence in the world community.

International Seminar on Persian Gulf Region Ends

LD2806170293 Tehran IRNA in English 1626 GMT 28 Jun 93

[Text] Tehran, June 28, IRNA—A three-day seminar on the prospects of peace and stability in the Persian Gulf and Oman Sea concluded with a report by head of the Foreign Ministry's Institute for Political and International Studies (IPIS) Sohrab Shahabi here today.

Shahabi referring to the papers presented to the seminar, concluded that the unstable political structures in the Persian Gulf, border disputes and enormous wealth of the regional countries were among the factors of tension in the Persian Gulf and the Middle East, prompting intervention of foreign countries in the region.

On the West's superficial understanding of Iran he said "fundamentalism in the West has no religious interpretation, and by using fundamentalism they (Westerners) mean the countries which oppose the American policies."

Shahabi said the Israeli pressure group in the U.S. has been influential in magnifying the alleged threat of Iran for the West over the recent years.

Meanwhile, Deputy Foreign Minister for Research Affairs Abbas Maleki in an address to the seminar said the recent U.S. missile attack against Iraq has been condemned by Egypt and members of the Arab League.

"This reveals the misconception of the U.S. Administration of the regional situation," he said.

Iranian experts and others from Jordan, Australia, Germany, United States, Britain, Japan, China, Kuwait and Lebanon participated in the seminar, where speakers also emphasized on legal qualification of the Islamic Republic concerning the Abu-Musa Island according to the 1971 accord between Iran and the United Arab Emirates.

Syrian 'Political Acrobatics,' Moves Toward Israel Viewed

NC2706071593 Tehran SALAM in Persian 16 Jun 93 p 12

[Unattributed commentary: "The Three Iranian Islands and Lifting Sanctions on Israel"]

[Text] Reports indicate that in their latest meeting in Abu Dhabi, the foreign ministers of the members of the Damascus Declaration—the Six plus Two Pact of Syria, Egypt, and the six Arab countries of the Persian Gulf—supported the territorial claims by the United Arab Emirates [UAE] to the three Iranian islands and, by insisting Tehran should submit to Abu Dhabi's baseless claims, they called for creating a "Muslim brotherhood"

in the region! This session also supported the Saudi Government's effort to prevent the disavowal of infidels ceremony.

The Abu Dhabi communique's reference to a discussion of the bilateral talks between Tehran and Abu Dhabi on territorial claims shows that not all the sides in the conference follow the same stance. But to clarify the various aspects and dimensions of this policy, Syria's stance on all these events should be noted. During the recent visit to Damascus by our deputy foreign minister, contrary to diplomatic practice, Syria avoided a meeting between the Iranian official and the Syrian foreign minister. Naturally, there was no meeting with the Syrian president either.

Although this meaningful Syrian behavior was unprecedented, it was not very unexpected in view of Syria's long record of attracting Saudi petrodollars by resorting to political acrobatics. Various facts show the reason for this behavior should be sought elsewhere; namely, in the collective efforts by reactionary Arabs to achieve a compromise with Israel and to impose this process on the independent governments in the region or force these governments to keep silent. The Saudi Government's prevention of the disavowal of infidels ceremony and the inhuman acts by Saudi officials in ousting pilgrims and the head of the Iranian pilgrims can all be viewed within this context.

It is no accident that a day after the Abu Dhabi communique was issued, the UAE Government called for lifting the economic sanctions on the Israeli regime. Of course, the main issue is not the fabricated crisis with Iran, but the creation of some tension and the effort to feign the existence of a threat in a bid to divert the Muslims' attention from the big, new treason that the leaders of Arab regimes are committing by lifting the economic sanctions on Israel and normalizing relations with the regime occupying Jerusalem.

Under such conditions, it is very clear that the Foreign Ministry should not show the least weakness on the threats of the shaykhs who could not resist foreign aggression, despite all their military material. Once these shaykhs see reaction to their moves is strong, they will seek another subject of propaganda to justify their disgraceful compromise with Israel.

Editorials Assess Outcome of Presidential Election

Result Shows Adherence to Revolution

NC2606151193 Tehran JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI in Persian 14 Jun 93 p 14

[Unattributed commentary: "An Analysis of the Sixth Presidential Elections"]

[Text] With the conclusion of the sixth presidential elections and the announcement of the final results, a study of the outcome of the elections appears to be necessary. If this analysis is done justly and realistically, then we can achieve a correct picture of where our society stands today.

The total number of votes cast in these elections was 16,789,666, out of which 10,555,912 were for Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani, thus giving him 62.87 percent of the votes and reelection. Hashemi-Rafsanjani's rivals in the elections received 4,001,017 votes or 23.83 percent; 1,528,055 votes or 9.11 percent; and 396,814 votes or 2.36 percent respectively. The number of invalid votes cast were 253,530.

Many points emerge from the analysis of these figures. Here we will list only a few.

1. A comparison of the total number of participants in these elections with the total number of participants in the fifth presidential elections on 28 July 1989, which was 16,439,247, shows an increase but not a very spectacular one. However, in view of the various elements that were listed as motives for the people's lack of presence, even this increase means that not only have the people not become indifferent as far as their presence in the country's destiny-making process is concerned but that they have displayed an increased sense of sensitivity and responsibility. Thus, in view of the difficulties stemming from the era of reconstruction and the impact of high prices and problems on the lives of the people, this presence is noteworthy and has an important political meaning.

2. One of the presidential candidates had stated in his campaign that he believes in direct talks with the United States. One of the messages that is conveyed by the low number of votes that he received is that the people continue to be steadfast on their firm and unreconciling stance vis-a-vis the United States and that they do not accept any relations with the United States, even if these relations are only limited to direct talks.

3. One of the clear points that the elections made was the people's lack of response to personalities with, idiomatically speaking, intellectual inclinations. One of the presidential candidates with such characteristics who also embarked on an extensive campaign was not even able to gain the number of votes that some observers believed he would. This too is a noteworthy point which shows that the people firmly support the revolution's principled policy and disregard such inclinations.

4. If we realistically regard the considerable number of votes received by the other candidate, we can conclude that a noteworthy number of people are strongly disappointed over some weaknesses in the executive organs and the fact that some of our values have lost their luster. By giving their votes to a person who precisely pointed a finger at these weaknesses, they expressed their dissatisfaction with the situation. It is not important whether this presidential candidate spoke on the basis of his beliefs or merely wanted to receive more votes only by pointing a finger at these weaknesses. What is important is that a considerable number of people voted in favor of

someone who propounded such issues and thus expressed their dissatisfaction at the lack of attention being paid to these issues.

5. The 36 percent of votes cast in favor of Hashemi-Rafsanjani's rivals shows that the presidential elections were serious and exactly contrary to the allegations by some. The votes cast in these elections clearly show the purposeful presence of the voters; this in itself is one of the elements for the people's extensive presence in the elections.

6. The culminating point of these elections was the noteworthy difference in the number of votes cast for Hojjat ol-Eslam val Moslemin Hashemi-Rafsanjani in comparison with the past elections. Definitely one of the reasons for the reduction in the number of votes was the purposeful and serious competition among people with different inclinations. At the same time, we should not forget that this reduction is also linked with economic problems stemming from the economic reforms programs and the behavior of some of the executive organs on the one hand and with the open cultural policies that have led to a toning down of some of the revolutionary values on the other.

Nevertheless, the reelection of Hashemi-Rafsanjani as president shows the Iranian people's firm belief in the ideals of the Islamic revolution and their correct identification of the special position that Hashemi-Rafsanjani enjoys in the revolution and in the system of the Islamic Republic. Hashemi-Rafsanjani's outstanding personality and his sincere, devoted, and sympathizing attitude are extremely significant elements that the Islamic revolution needs for its continuation, and the multifaceted support for this outstanding revolutionary personality is tantamount to support for the revolution and the consolidation of the sacred system of the Islamic Republic.

It is hoped that Hashemi-Raf anjani will tap the experiences he has gained during his first term as president and will employ forces that are more committed and more devoted to the principles, ideals, and values of the Islamic revolution and thus very successfully continue the era of reconstruction. And as he himself stated in his message on the completion of the sixth presidential elections, may this presidential term lead to the multifaceted development and progress of Iran and to the further strengthening of revolutionary and Islamic values.

'Biased' Support for Hashemi-Rafsanjani

NC2606152593 Tehran SALAM in Persian 14 Jun 93 p 2

[Unattributed commentary: "Counting Chickens Before They Are Hatched"]

[Text] The sixth presidential elections were held and, as was definitely foreseen, Hashemi-Rafsanjani was elected president for a second four-year term. We seize this opportunity to express our wishes for his and his future cabinet's success in serving the revolution, the country, the nation, and Islam. We also seize this opportunity to list a few points on the elections—something which may not have been favorable to do before the completion of the elections.

1. Even though the number of votes cast was less than the previous elections—in past elections 57 percent of the voters participated while only 49 percent participated in these elections—nevertheless in view of the existing economic and noneconomic problems and the mode of management during the past years, this participation shows that our people have maintained their political interests and sensitivities—a valuable asset that we should not allow to be wasted.

2. As was previously stated, political participation is not summed up only in the casting of votes. Casting votes is the outcome of a political process, exactly in the same way that harvesting a crop is the outcome of sowing and cultivating it. In other words, a candidate or candidates cannot suddenly emerge without any preliminary arrangements and expect the people to harvest unripe fruit that was planted only a month ago. Unfortunately in this case, people will definitely prefer a ripe fruit to an unripe one!

Thus when viewing the issue from this angle we can see that, generally speaking, we have a long way to go until we complete all the necessary phases of the political process in society and that there are various social, political, and cultural elements that affect this situation and that we have referred to on various occasions in the past.

3. One of the points that is always emphasized in order to attract the people to the polling stations is the need to deal a crushing blow to world arrogance. One may say that one of the reasons for the reduction in the number of voters may have been this type of propaganda. This does not mean that the people are not interested in confronting arrogance and the enemies of the country, the people, and the revolution. On the contrary, definitely the people are ready to confront their enemies. Therefore, there is no need for these correct and strong inclinations of the people to be opportunely or inopportunely exploited.

Of course it is true that an increase in the presence of the nation in the elections with the intention of participation in its political future will also be tantamount to the people's determination to confront these elements. But even if all the people go to the polling stations and cast their votes without playing an important role in their political destiny, then nothing will have been achieved vis-a-vis world arrogance.

Therefore instead of resorting to unreal and cliched topics, it is better to define the true position of the elections in which case the people will, more or less, enter the scene of politics zealously and will also assume responsibility for the good or the bad situations of the country and economy that they have voted for.

4. One of the important points that was ignored during the elections was the emphasis on the need to observe the principles of law. Unfortunately this issue was not seriously dealt with by any of the candidates. The illegal and one-sided propaganda that existed in favor of Hashemi-Rafsanjani is not something that can be ignored. This was achieved by creating a favorable atmosphere for Hashemi-Rafsanjani's speeches in comparison with the others. It is said that announcements on his speeches were much more than announcements on the speeches by others. A statement by Tehran Municipality's against Ahmad Tavakkoli was published. The topics propounded by the other candidates were censored with the omission of some topics from their speeches. A pronounced increase in televised news reports on the president was observed, so much so that even the country's dams were reinaugurated and every day one of his activities was reported on. Also, the president was interviewed on the day of the elections. There were many other such examples.

These partial stances had two possible results: either they led to an increase in the number of votes cast for Hashemi-Rafsanjani or they did not. If they did, then had it not been for such biased propaganda, would there not have been a second round of elections? And if they did not, then it is a source of regret that our propaganda machinery is still unaware of what can work for or against a situation. It seems that all this enraged the people toward the first candidate and this may possibly have been one of the reasons for the reduction in the number of votes he received. However, this is the continuation of the government's past behaviors and policies that it did not try to evade.

No sane logic considers the publication of a statement against Tavakkoli to be permissible. The officials should know that the adage that counting chickens before they are hatched worked both contrary to law and against their intentions.

We hope to be able to list more important views and points on the elections.

Jannati Sermon Views Human Rights, Fighting Vice

LD2506143093 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 1031 GMT 25 Jun 93

[Second Friday sermon by Ayatollah Ahmad Jannati, member of the Guardian Council, in Tehran on 25 June—recorded]

[Excerpts] We seek refuge from God against the wicked Satan. In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. [passage omitted]

Now there are many appropriate issues, each of which must be noted very briefly. One is the issue of 7 Tir [28 June] and the [anniversary of the 1981] martyrdom of the beloved Beheshti and his companions. Once again here—while our hearts are branded with sorrow in bereavement of that beloved one and his beloved companions—we damn the perpetrators of that disaster, which were the criminal America and its hypocrite agents [reference to Mojahedin-e Khalq Organization] in this country.

If someone really imagines that one day we can make any reconciliation [kenar biya'im] under any circumstances, it must be said that he is very confused, he is mentally deranged. Because who is there who will forget 7 Tir, who is there who will forget the crimes that they perpetrated here, after 7 Tir and before 7 Tir and all those plots they hatched, and the way they made that beloved leader of the Islamic revolution the victim of an explosion in the Abuzar mosque? If it were not for God's blessing which preserved him [reference to Khamene'i] him, he would also have been lost.

Who did all those things? Just a few insignificant hypocrites? Without foreign support? Even if everyone says that it still is not believable. They themselves have been confessing this recently. Shame on those who claim to support human rights! Shame on those who accuse us of terrorism! Do you think that the politicians and those acquainted with current affairs do not realize that it was you who carried out those horrific assassinations—which caused the country to mourn? Who does not know? Can all that be denied? Are we terrorists while you are not? Do you observe human rights?

Are you prepared to confess that you have carried out that criminal act and repent it? Are you prepared to admit that it was a mistake? Are you prepared to condemn that crime? Was not that an act of terrorism? Was that not an inhuman act? Did that not detract from human rights? Are you prepared to condemn those crimes? If you are not—in which case per force it will be a confession to the crime—why do you claim for human rights? Why, in Bosnia-Herzegovina, do you give the enemy such an opportunity until he delivers the coup de grace and then you bring in the panacea? You who gave the enemy there such an opportunity that he became dominant over the lives, honor, goods and territory of the Muslims, and now are proposing the treacherous plan for dividing Bosnia-Herzegovina. Are you defenders of human rights? Do you claim for human rights? Are you defenders of human rights when before your eyes more than 400 Palestinian Muslims—who were living in their free and prosperous lands—were made refugees in cold winter and sent to their exile—and they are still there and should not be forgotten. May God damn those who claim for human rights but kill human beings and commit crimes against human beings, the honor of human beings, the ideology of human beings, the ethics of human beings and the integrity and pride of human beings. [Crowd chants: God is great, Khamene'i is the leader, death to the hypocrites, death to Israel and death to America] [passage omitted]

Recently the law enforcement forces started a move—before the week for prescribing virtues and proscribing

vices—to combat dreadful and un-Islamic appearances on the streets. I must first thank the law enforcement force, which started this operation, which will bear good results. In this connection, there are a number of important points which everybody should be made aware of.

The first point is that now that when this move started, a number of rumor-mongers and trouble-makers inside and outside the country started spreading rumors to cause this move to fail, some inside Iran and some outside. Foreign loudspeakers and the basest of them, especially, AFP, BBC, and a news agency in Italy, acted in the basest manner. They have raised a hullabaloo, as if the country was turned upside down. They say things. For example, AFP says that they have arrested hundreds of women on such and such square. You blackguards, do you not know that there are people who are in touch with the situation and know that you are lying? And, why has the person who transmitted the news told those lies? Why are they not prevented from telling such lies?

I have been in constant touch with the situation. I summoned the chief of the law enforcement forces and asked him questions. There were no such figures in all of Tehran on that day, let alone on one square. It was a lot less. That was one. Second, the law enforcement forces, as well as the basij and all those who urge the people to carry out virtues, operate by issuing a reminder to any one who has committed an offense, no matter what offense. If the offender accepts it, then it is all very well. If the person turns and walks away, nothing will be done. If the person turns back and starts to be insulting and abusive or even physically violent, then this will be dealt with in a way established by law. Even those who are taken to the law enforcement headquarters will first receive a warning. If they express their regret, then they will be let off. The majority of cases in fact are like this; that is to say that once they are taken there, they realize that they have done something wrong, ugly, and offensive. They realize that playing around with the blood of martyrs and making fun of Islamic values is not good. Then the reminders prove useful and the offenders are dismissed. There is a very small number of people who might resort to abusive and impudent behavior and rude words. These people will be dealt with by application of very simple regulations. This is the reality, but just look how it is handled by Western media.

Inside the country too some people, under the pretext of feeling concerned, constantly cry: See this, see that, this is not right, this will discredit us, we will be accused of violation of human rights, they will ask us what we have done to women, and such like. They talk this way under the pretext of feeling concerned; such feelings are wrong, as God's orders cannot be forgotten, and the principle of enjoining virtues and forbidding vices cannot be neglected. The boundaries must be complied with.

If you witness an offense somewhere, then as a rule you should telephone the law enforcement forces, and give them full details not about what you have heard but about what you have actually seen with your own eyes. Then the law enforcement forces will deal with the case and pursue the offender, only if an undesirable act has been committed. The law enforcement forces themselves have put inspection units alongside their operating units, so that they can see and control things, lest something improper takes place. After all, we seek to forbid vices, and in doing so we should not commit a vice ourselves. These were the features that our people should be aware of. [passage omitted]

Nepal

Unrest Continues; Curfew Imposed in Kathmandu

BK2806140293 Hong Kong AFP in English 1336 GMT 28 Jun 93

[Text] Kathmandu, June 28 (AFP)—The Nepalese Government clamped an overnight curfew in Kathmandu on Monday [28 June] for the fourth successive night since a communist strike spawned widespread violence here, and said violators would be shot.

An official announcement on state radio said the curfew was imposed from 8:00 p.m. to 3 a.m. (1430 to 2130 GMT) in the Kathmandu city area to maintain law and order.

"The political situation is still tense in the capital, therefore it was necessary to clamp curfew," the announcement said. " If anybody defies the curfew order within the seven-hour period, they can be shot by security police guards on duty."

The curfew order also banned any kind of demonstration or public meeting in the Kathmandu city area during the night.

King Summons Communist Leaders

BK2906154793 Hong Kong AFP in English 1535 GMT 29 Jun 93

[Text] Kathmandu, June 29 (AFP)—As Kathmandu remained tense but quiet Tuesday [29 June] after four days of anti-government violence which left as many as 25 dead, King Birendra summoned communist leaders for discussions, government sources said.

A curfew remained in force, however, after more than 90 people were arrested in the capital overnight for breaking it.

The sources said the king would discuss with Nepal Communist Party-United Marxist and Leninist (NCP-UML) chairman Man Mohan Adhikari and its general secratary Madhav Nepal the May 16 incident in which a jeep carrying party officials ended up in a western Nepal river, killing two senior party leaders.

The NCP-UML claimed earlier that the men died as a result of foul play, and the release of a government report

claiming the incident was accidental led the party to call a demonstration Friday, which degenerated into rioting across Kathmandu.

Police said they had shot dead 10 rioters, but other sources said at least 25 people had died in the violence so far.

The ruling Nepali Congress' central working committee also met briefly Tuesday to review the current political situation. The meeting was attended by Prime Minister Girija Prasad Koirala and various parliamentarians.

The government report, issued by former Supreme Court Justice Prachand Raj Anil, ruled that the cause of the May 16 jeep accident was negligence caused by the driver, NCP-UML member Amar Lama.

But the party said Lama was "deeply involved in the conspiracy."

A government announcement of a fifth straight night of curfew, released on state radio, said the authorities still considered that continued calm in Kathmandu was far from certain.

"The political situation is still tense in the capital. Therefore it was necessary to clamp the curfew to maintain law and order and protect the lives and property of the general public," it said.

Earlier in the day, some 8,000 communist activists held an anti-government demonstration in nearby Banepa Township, calling for an all-party investigation and Koirala's removal from office.

One slogan called for the prime minister's death.

But Koirala told reporters he would not bow to the communists' demand for a new commission of enquiry.

"The NCP-UML talks highly of democratic values but they themselves are violating human rights norms," he said, calling the demands for a new enquiry "unacceptable."

"I fully honour and support the report prepared by the Anil commission," Koirala said.

Nepali Congress president K.P. Bhattarai told AFP the current political situation was "quite disturbing," but that the "resignation of Prime Minister Koirala from office is unthinkable."

But Bhattarai did appear to leave some room for government concessions to the communists.

"We have initiated talks with the NCP-UML leaders and they are continuing," he said. "During our talks with the NCP-UML, we insisted that the left factions should end the current (agitation) and continue negotiations, for in a democracy everything is negotiable."

But the seven leftist factions were not placated, and called for a countrywide strike for next Monday to back their demands for a new inquiry into the deaths of the two party leaders.

Two Ministers Resign as Terms in Upper House Expire

BK2806083493 Hong Kong AFP in English 0826 GMT 28 Jun 93

[Text] Kathmandu, June 28 (AFP)—Two ministers in the Koirala government have resigned following the end of their terms in the upper house of the National Assembly, state radio announced Monday [28 June].

The two officials are Minister of State for Commerce and Local Supply, Aishworya Lal Pradhananga and Assistant Minister for Industry and Labour, Diwakar Man Sherchan.

King Birendra, on the recommendation of Prime Minister Girija Prasad Koirala has appointed Assistant Minister for Commerce and Local Supply, Surendra Prasad Chaudhari to the post vacated by Pradahananga, the announcement said.

Sherchan's post is to be kept open pending an appointment, a cabinet source said.

Koirala has been considering a major cabinet shuffle, but has failed to do so under pressure from Nepali Congress Supreme Leader Ganesh Man Singh, a Nepali Congress source said. The source said that Singh had called for a leadership change rather than a cabinet shuffle as the best way of improving government performance.

A cabinet reshuffle is expected at the conclusion of the current budget in September, provided Koirala survives the present political unrest which has already claimed 20 lives, seven of which have been officially confirmed.

Ruling Party Gains Strength in Upper House

BK2806085493 Hong Kong AFP in English 0845 GMT 28 Jun 93

[Text] Kathmandu, June 28 (AFP)—The ruling Nepali Congress gained strength in parliament's upper house after winning 13 of the 17 seats vacated last week, a parliamentary official said Monday [28 June].

The seats were made vacant with the expiry last week of the two-year terms of a third of the chamber's 60 members.

Under Nepal's 1990 constitution, one-third of the National Assembly members sit for two years, another third for four years and the final third for six years, with members originally divided into each group by lottery.

Three of the 20 vacated seats are to be nominated by King Birendra and a royal spokesman said they would be named later this week.

The rightist National Democratic Party did not nominate any members for election due to insufficient votes.

The leftist United Peoples' Front and the Nepal Peasants' and Workers' Party and the Democratic Peoples' Party (Marxist) failed to win any seats.

Four went to the Nepal Communist Party-United Marxist and Leninist (NCP-UML) and 13 to the ruling Nepali Congress, the parliamentary official said.

The four NCP-UML seats were won by newly appointed secretary general Madhav Kumar Nepal, Mohan Chandra Adhikari, Siddhi Nath Gyanwali and Jagat Bahadur Bogate.

Nepali Congress winners included incumbent National Assembly chairman Beni Bahadur Karki, Jagadish Shumshox Vrana, Kapileswore Lal Kayestha, and Dal Singh Thapa, while Durga Kumari Bhattarai was elected unopposed among female candidates, the official said.

It increased its hold in the upper house from 31 seats to 35.

Pakistan

Governor Dissolves Punjab Assembly After Restoration Ordered

Lahore High Court Restores Assembly

BK2806151893 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in Urdu 1500 GMT 28 Jun 93

[Text] The Lahore High Court has dismissed the Punjab governor's order of 29 June under which the Punjab assembly was dissolved and has termed the order unlawful and unwarranted. The court said the Punjab governor's order had no legal standing and thereby the Punjab assembly is being restored. Lahore High Court Chief Justice Mian Mahboob Ahmad gave a brief judgment on Chaudhary Parvez Elahi's petition in Lahore this evening. The chief justice giving the brief judgment in the favor of the petition said the judgment is unanimous and the detailed judgment will be given later.

New Dissolution Order

BK2906015093 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in Urdu 0100 GMT 29 Jun 93

[Text] Punjab Governor Chaudhary Mohammad Altaf Hussain again dissolved the provincial assembly on the advice of Chief Minister Mian Manzoor Ahmad Wattoo shortly after the assembly's restoration by the Lahore High Court yesterday evening. A press release issued by the Governor House in Lahore yesterday evening says that the chief minister gave his advice to the governor at 1900 and the governor signed the assembly dissolution order at 1945. Mian Manzoor Ahmad Watto has been asked to continue to work as the chief minister of the province. The governor has also approved the budget for Punjab Province on the advice of the chief minister.

President Not Involved

BK2906030893 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in Urdu 0200 GMT 29 Jun 93

[Text] Punjab Chief Minister Mian Manzoor Ahmad Wattoo has claimed that he has exercised his constitutional right in advising the governor to dissolve the provincial assembly. Addressing a news conference in Lahore last night, he said he respects the decision of the Lahore High Court, but he has decided to seek a fresh mandate from the people.

Sources close to the President House have told the ASSOCIATED PRESS OF PAKISTAN that the Punjab governor had not sought the consent of the president for dissolving the Punjab Assembly or for allowing the chief minister to continue in his office nor had the president issued any instructions in this regard. The sources said that the president has played no role at all in this development. The fact is that when the governor and the chief minister met the president in the morning, they had exchanged views on the steps they could take in the event of the restoration of the assembly by the Lahore High Court. The president had advised that all sides should respect the decision of the court.

A large number of the former members of the Punjab Assembly have strongly condemned the dissolution of the provincial assembly, describing it as the murder of democracy and a blatant violation of the Lahore High Court's verdict, which is tantamount to the contempt of court. They have said the Punjab government is deriding the court and it has been fully exposed in the eyes of the people.

Resolution To Transfer Powers to Center

BK2906114293 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in English 1100 GMT 29 Jun 93

[Text] The minister for parliamentary affairs, Chaudhary Mir Hussain, today moved a resolution in a joint sitting of Parliament that a situation has arisen in the Punjab under which the government of Punjab cannot be carried on in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution. It, therefore, resolves that the president issue a proclamation under Clause 1 of Article 234 of the Constitution rescinding all functions of the government of Punjab other than those exercised by the provincial assembly. It declares that the powers of the provincial assembly shall be exercisable by the Parliament.

Earlier, relevant rules were suspended and the Parliament allowed the minister for parliamentary affairs to move the resolution.

Immediately after the beginning of the session some opposition members raised points of order that the joint session should be postponed because of the sanctity of Muharram [first month of the Muslim calender]. There was lot of discussion in favor and against the move. Those who opposed the move said the session should continue as the country was passing through a very

delicate political situation. They said it was necessary for Parliament to remain in sitting until the issues were discussed in detail. The members of the treasury benches said that Hazrat Imam Hussain Aliasalam had himself preached for struggle for the rights of the people. They said that democratic institutions were essential for political stability in the country and the Parliament can play its role in this connection. The members highly criticized the vested interests who were conspiring gainst democracy. They said due to this uncertainty the economy of the country was suffering. They said we must remain united internally. In this connection, they referred to the reconciliation efforts initiated by the prime minister. They were highly critical of the dissolution of the Punjab assembly immediately after the Lahore high court had restored it. They maintained that actually the action of the governor was against the concept of provincial autonomy. Those who spoke in favor of the joint sitting and continuing the business included Sheikh Rashid Ahmed, Maulana Abdul Sattar Khan Niazi, Mr. Javed Hashemi, Mr. Mohammad Ali Khan, Maulana Mohammad Azam tariq, Mr. Abdur Rahim Mantokhel, Mian Abdul Waheed, Mr. Hamza, Mr. Tariq C. Kaiser, Chuadhary Sher Ali, and Mr. Alam Ali Laleka.

The members from some of the opposition parties objected to the joint sitting of Parliament and said the session could have been held after Asura Muharram [10th day of Muharram]. Those who spoke against the joint session today included Ms. Benazir Bhutto, Sardar Farooq Ahmed Khan Leghari, Mian Afzal Khan, Mian Zahid Sarfaraz, Maulana Hamid Syed Qwazmi, Mr. Aitzaz Ahsan, Syed Abdullah Shah, Mr. Iqbal Haider, Hafiz Hussain Ahmad, Mr. Iqbal Ahmed Khan, Syed Parvez Ali Shah, Arbab Ghulam Rahim, Mr. Yusuf Reza Gilani, Mr. Liaqat Baloch, Mr. Naveed Qamar, Mr. Juluis Salek, and Syed Khurshid Shah.

The prime minister, Mr. Mohammad Nawaz Sharif, was present during the discussion.

Editorials Condemn U.S. Air Strike on Baghdad

Clinton Hoping To Revive Support

BK2806121293 Islamabad THE NEWS in English 28 Jun 93 p 7

[Editorial: "The Empire Strikes Again"]

[Text] It appears that President Bill Clinton is seeking the title of warlord with his first, wholly unjustified attack on Iraq. A pretext was certainly cited, but it does not hold water. President Clinton claimed in a speech that the missile attack on Baghdad was to punish Iraq for conspiring to assassinate former president George Bush with a car bomb when he visited Kuwait. Since the US itself scoffed at the plot when it was originally unearthed in Kuwait it now barely serves as an excuse. Why does the White House even bother with excuses when it is patently clear that the motives were different. By stirring up a desert storm in a teacup, Clinton hoped to revive flagging domestic support and gave some weight to a presidency that seemed to [lose] steam within its first six months.

Clinton's highly-touted economic programmes have barely squeaked through Congress, its record in finding qualified people for important government positions has been abysmal and he has been increasingly under attack from all quarters. The honeymoon with the press is over, but instead of seeking to work on creating harmony, the Clinton administration is trying to divert public attention away from the glaring inadequacies in Washington and the Beltway by seeking to prove its macho image. After coming under fire for what is clearly a botched up operation in Somalia, the Americans are resurrecting the bogey of the man the Americans love to hate—Saddam Husayn.

The military is also not amused at the manner in which President Clinton and his men have been handling matters they believe are best left to the men in uniform. Clinton is seen as being pro-gays which is anathema to the establishment. Since Clinton is seeing to make drastic defence cuts, the top brass of the military is worried that their new commander-in-chief may be what they fear the most—a domestic peacenik—perceived as the fatal flaw. By authorising a strike on supposed intelligence centres in Baghdad, Clinton gets to prove his manhood. Has anybody explained to Clinton that the presidency is not a college fraternity where he has to prove himself by carrying out acts of immaturity to be one of the boys?

Iraq is no longer the main issue of the day. It has not been for months. The plot to kill Bush has not even been proven beyond doubt and the case against the perpetrators is still continuing in Kuwait. Yet the Americans deemed it fit to "punish" Iraq and 23 missiles rained down on the al-Mansur area of Baghdad, a residential area, killing at least six civilians, including one of Iraq's finest artists and her husband. Yet another glittering example of the American military's surgical precison. Surgery is not coducted with a sledge hammer. It is indeed sad that Iraqi lives were lost in Clinton's desperate bid to salvage his image and his ego.

While American allies have been cautious in their reaction to the attack, others are asking how the US found justification for its actions in Iraq while it continues to dither over Bosnia. There has never been such a clear-cut example to illustrate the need for intervention than Bosnia. But Washington, in its wisdom, finds Iraq a more compelling case. The globo-cop, in this case, has copped out. If the US thinks it can divert attention from Bosnia by creating a flashpoint in Iraq, it is wrong. Even if the tension in Iraq escalates, the Muslim world at least will not lose sight of its mission to help Bosnia. The UN Security council msut vote to lift the arms embargo on the Bosnian Muslims and must not allow itself to be diverted by what has happened in Iraq other than to rebuke the US for unwarranted aggression.

Iraqi People Main Targets

BK2806124193 Karachi DAWN in English 28 Jun 93 p 15

[Editorial: "Gunboat Diplomacy All Over Again"]

[Text] The United States' perception of its role as the world's only superpower and arbiter of the destinies of nations has found its latest manifestation in a devastating cruise missile attack on Iraq's intelligence centre in Baghdad on early Sunday [27 June] morning. The attack was in retaliation for the alleged Iraqi plot to assasinate the former American President, George Bush, in April when he was visiting Kuwait. But the arbitrary manner in which the strike was carried out, the magnitude of the destruction of civilian life and property they caused and the blatant attempt by President Clinton to make political capital out of the whole episode betray a horrific if clumsy demonstration of the arrogance of power by a government seeking absolute control over world affairs.

Sunday morning's missile attack was crying negation of the norms of statesmanlike and civilised behavior. In the first place, the US military leaders should have known better that a strike against an intelligence agency housed in the crowded downtown area of Baghdad would cause heavy civilian casualities that would be hard to justify, especially in peacetime. If anything, the Pentagon's own study of the 1991 Gulf war has reached the conclusion that such long distance strikes fail to inflict proprotionate damage on specific military targets. In that context, the American President's claim that his action was designed to send a message to the Iraqi dictator and others [words indistinct] and deter aggression sounds quite hollow. Even if the American Justice Department's verdict that President Saddam Husayn had masterminded the assasination plot were to be accepted, it does not justify the brutal retributive action that the Americans have taken against Iraq. It amounts to trying to intimidate the Iraqi leader by inflicting punishment on his people. Given the authoritarian structure of the government in Iraq, it is futile to bring pressure on the people to throw out or reform their leaders. Neither is it realistic to expect a tyrant of the likes of President Saddam Husayn to be moved by the sufferings of his people and, accordingly, change his way and policies.

Whichever way one looks at it, President Clinton's action can at best be interrupted as a display of American power to remind the world of Washington's hegemonic role in the present international order. By flexing his military muscles against a beaten and beleaguered nation the President [words indistinct] give a much needed boost to his dwindling popularity at a time when his approval ratings at home had fallen to a record low. Admittedly, he has won the support of his major Western ally, namely, Britain. But in the Third World the injustice of the missile attack will be deeply felt and deplored. The main sufferers in the unequal tug of war that is being waged between Washington and Baghdad for the last three years are the Iraqi people. The economic sanctions that were imposed in August 1990 when President Saddam's troops invaded Kuwait continue to be in place causing immense misery and suffering to the men, women and children of Iraq. The missile strike, which took the Iraqis by surprise, have hurt the civilians—to what extent remains to be assessed. On the other hand, the military and the government leadership apparatus have remained unscathed. It is, therefore, time America came round to realising that indiscriminate vengeance against a people for the perceived wrong doings of their leaders or a handful of activists is not the right method of inducing some desirable changes in Baghdad or of winning the respect, confidence and admiration of the people in the Third World.

JI's Qazi Urges Return of Troops From Somalia

BK2706115193 Islamabad THE NEWS in English 27 Jun 93 p 12

[Text] Lahore—Senator Qazi Hussain Ahmad, the ameer of Jamat-i-Islami [JI], has made it clear that Jamaat would never side with Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif in case an impeachment motion tabled against President Ishaq. [sentence as published]

In an interview with "THE NEWS" after his arrival here from Turkey, Sudan, Qatar and Doha, the JI Ameer urged the government to immediately call back Pakistani troops from Somalia.

He said that Muslims all over the world are concerned over Pakistan army's role in Somalia, which has been blamed for butchering Muslims there. About prevalent situation in Somalia, he said, "the US is [word indistinct] Sudan under the garb of providing help to Somalis." The Jamaat Ameer said that America wants Muslims to fight with each other.

He was also critical of the role being played by the Organisation of Islamic Conference and said that a few Muslim rulers were cheating the Muslims as they have made secret deals with US to dump Islamic movements.

To a question about reviewing the 8th Amendment, Qazi Hussain Ahmad said though Jamaat wanted to eliminate discretionary powers of the President, yet it was not ready to support an amendment which would ultimately shift presidental power to the Prime Minister. Such a situation was neither acceptable to Jamaat nor other opposition parties because this would make Nawaz a dictator. He stressed the need for conciliation between the President and the Prime Minister to save democracy.

He said if the government was sincere in bringing postive changes in the constitution, it should discuss the matter with opposition parties.

Qazi opposed the idea of fresh elections saying that it would be of no use for the poor masses. He said that people were fed up with the "iota politics" and would reject such elements in the next elections.

Editorial Views UN Role

BK2606130793 Peshawar THE FRONTIER POST in English 26 Jun 93 p 10

[Editorial: "Pakistan Must Avoid International Isolation"]

[Text] Jamaat Islami leader Qazi Hussain Ahmad has told his party that Pakistan has erred by sending its troops to Somalia as United Nations force. His view is that the Muslim world is seeing the UN operation there as a scheme of the United States to impose its imperialist hegemony on the world. He has accused the government of Mian Nawaz Sharif of getting 24 Pakistani soldiers killed while fighting on the wrong side. He thinks that Pakistan should send its troops to Bosnia, but not to Somalia.

To set the record straight, Pakistan has the largest number of soldiers doing United Nations duty in Somalia, because Pakistan was thought to be the most acceptable country to the Somalian people. One must recall the days when Pakistan fully supported Somalian Muslims' war against communist Ethiopia and was a country recognised by Somalia as a friend. Aidid is just one warlord, who has run amok and that too because of the Mogadishu before the UN command there was streamlined. Aidid has the background of Moscow and India, where he was ambassador before he was recalled and put in jail by his master Siad Barre. And he doesn't represent the entire Somalian people. He has become powerful because of the food he stole during days when the Pakistani troops in Mogadishu were small in number. He was able to ambush Pakistanis because they trusted that he would pay some regard to the sympathy they had shown towards his people. To correct the wrong information being given out, Pakistan is not the only Islamic country participating in the UN operation in Somalia. One Moroccan soldier, too, has been killed by Aidid. As for the UN operations in Bosnia, Pakistan has offered 2000 troops for that area too; the Egyptians are already there from the start. The position taken by Islamabad is that Pakistan would take part in all UN peace-keeping operations despite the misfortune it has had to suffer at the hands of Aidid. The idea is not to allow the various regions of the world to be patrolled by other nations not friendly to Pakistan's interests in those regions. The second more important reason is not to allow Pakistan to recede into international isolation by appearing to be unhappy with international law. There are many in Pakistan who condemn the United Nations and term the UN Security Council a handmaiden of the United States, but this kind of thinking should not sway Islamabad's resolute policy to adhere to the norms set by the United Nations, mainly because our stand on Kashmir depends on a number of crucial resolution of the United Nations, which the world continues to recognise. The example of Germany is relevant here. Despite constitutional complications and domestic popular opposition, Germany has sent its troops to Bosnia and Somalia under the UN auspices in order to ward off the international isolation it would have suffered otherwise. There are elements in Pakistan who insist that the country should be pushed into an era of international defiance. This not only includes hostility towards the West in general, and the United States, in particular, but also towards some Muslim states, whom these elements don't favour. This would mean exposing the government of Miant Nawaz Sharif to punitive measures by foreign powers in the sector of international trade. This kind of policy would also mean going against a number of Muslim states and, thus, causing rifts in the Islamic bloc. So far, the policy being followed by Mian Nawaz Sharif vis-a-vis the United Nations peace-keeping operations is correct. This is a policy the country should continue to follow, because the major threat it faces is from India and any kind of international isolation will make it easy for India to move against Pakistan with impunity. A policy of wisdom is better than a policy of bravado.

JI Leader Says U.S. 'Interference' at 'Alarming Level'

BK2706132893 Islamabad THE NEWS in English 27 Jun 93 p 5

[Excerpt] Peshawar—The Jamaat-i-Islami Peshawar general secretary, Isarullah, has alleged that the U.S. interference in Pakistan affairs has reached an alarming level and even the sensitive agencies were no longer safe from the American intrusion.

Speaking at a function in Zareef Koroona in Mohmand Agency, he also expressed concern over the confrontation between the President and the Prime Minister and said it could have dangerous consequences both for the country's integrity and democracy. He said the people considered President Ghulam Ishaq Khan, Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif, and opposition leader Benazir Bhutto equally responsible for the present political crisis. [passage omitted]

Vigilance Called For Against Indian Sabotage

BK2806130393 Islamabad THE NEWS in English 28 Jun 93 p 12

[Text] Islamabad—The Ministry of Interior issued a communique last month warning against the activities of Indian intelligence agency RAW [Reserve and Analysis Wing] in the country.

A confidential circular in this respect is being distributed to all govt and semi-govt departments including media and educational institutions and their staff in this respect.

It said RAW was going to carry out sabotage and blasts throughout Pakistan and their main target would be govt installations in the country.

It [word indistinct] the respective dearptments to issue necessary instructions to exert "strictest vigilance" and "extra precautionary measures" to avoid any untoward incident.

The communique has been issued in the wake of growing political unrest and increasing tension betweeen the centre and the provinces. Already the govt circles are dubbing critics especially journalists not supporting the federal govt in the tussle with Punjab Government as RAW agents.

Government Working To Recover Abducted Chinese

BK2806155293 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in Urdu 1500 GMT 28 Jun 93

[Excerpt] Birjis Tahir, parliamentary secretary for the interior, told the National Assembly that the government is making all possible efforts to recover the Chinese engineers abducted on 21 June. Local administration has been alerted and the government of Balochistan is being provided with necessary assistance in this regard. He was speaking on a call-attention notice by Haji Mohammad Javed Iqbal Cheema on the issue. [passage omitted]

Albanian Deputy Prime Minister Begins Visit

BK2606031293 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in Urdu 0200 GMT 26 Jun 93

[Text] Albanian Deputy Prime Minister Bashkin Kopliku has said that wide prospects exist for expanding Pakistan-Albanian trade and economic cooperation. Talking to reporters at Islamabad airport on his arrival for a three-day visit to Pakistan, he said he is looking forward to Pakistani investments in his country. He said his country also wants to establish an embassy in Pakistan. The Albanian deputy prime minister said that during his stay he will hold talks with Pakistani officials on matters of bilateral interest and regional and international issues.

Meets President, Premier

BK2606153593 Islamabad PTV Television Network in English 1400 GMT 26 Jun 93

[Text] The deputy prime minister of Albania, Mr. Bashkim Kopliku, called on the president, Mr. Ghulam Ishaq Khan, at the Aiwan-i-Sadr [president's house] today. The Albanian deputy prime minister discussed with the president ways and means to promote relations between the two countries in various fields. The president recalled Albania's active participation in the Islamic foreign ministers conference recently held in Karachi and hoped it would continue to play its due role for the welfare of Muslims. President Ghulam Ishaq Khan expressed the hope that the visit would strengthen cooperation between Pakistan and Albania in various sectors, particularly in the economic field.

The deputy prime minister of Albania also called on the prime minister, Mr. Mohammad Nawaz Sharif, at the prime minister's house in Islamabad this morning. At the meeting, it was agreed upon that as members of the Islamic Conference Organization, Pakistan and Albania should institutionalize and expand cooperation in all fields. It was also agreed that their private sectors should establish contacts and explore possible areas of economic cooperation. Mr. Bashkim Kopliku informed the prime minister of his government's decision to open a resident mission in Islamabad.

Editorial Views Meeting Between Prime Minister, President

BK2906090693 Islamabad THE NEWS in English 29 Jun 93 p 7

[Editorial: "No Meeting of Minds"]

[Text] That should have been part of the normal functioning of the affairs of state made headlines yesterday, the meeting between the President and Prime Minister—after a gap of several months which have seen a fierce political clash between the two. The very fact that they met was therefore regarded as a significant political event. But was there a meeting of minds? A terse statement from a [word indistinct] spokesman [words indistinct]. So did Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif when he later briefed journalists about the meeting. He also detailed the several issues he raised with the President and urged him to take partienlar notice of the ongoing Centre-province tussle and what he described as violations of the Constitution going on in the provinces.

Whetever the immediate salutary effect of the meeting, it is apparent that the gulf between the two is much too wide to be bridged by a single meetinng. Nor can the crisis in the country, in which the battle for the Punjab is the focal point, be said to have subsided. Indeed the confrontation in the country's largest province is widely predicted to assume new, and perhaps even more dangerous, dimensions in the coming days. On this both protagonists believe that they are following the Constitution while the other is defying it. And a clash over the presentation of the provincial budget is forecast. Indeed, so intense is the confrontation that this has been depicted as a modern day 'Battle of Pantpat.' Opposition leader Benazir Bhutto for example has suggested that this presents civil war-like conditions.

From this situation it is apparent that the President-Prime Minister deadlock is but one dimension of a wider crisis, involving a cast of charactes that includes assorted rivals and opponents of Mr Sharif. A key element of this desperate situation [words indistinct] have constantly warned of the situation springing out of everyone's control. For that reason we have cautioned restraint, all the more necessary now that the battle for Punjab has reached a perilous pitch. The next few days in which the joint session of parliament meets, the Punjab MPAs make their way back to Lahore from their 'protected' position in the capital and the Lahore High Court announces its judgement, are expected to be stormy and therefore critical. It is important for the various actors—however intense their conflict—to handle these with responsibility and ensure that they do not go over the brink. For beyond that lies anarchy.

Naval Chief of Staff on Progress of Submarine Construction

BK2906092193 Islamabad THE NATION in English 29 Jun 93 p 3

[Text] Islamabad—Adminal Sayeed M. Khan, Chief of the Naval Staff has said that within next year Pakistan Navy intends laying the foundation of Submarine construction programme, followed by a surface ship construction project.

The Chief of the Naval Staff was addressing a galaxy of eminent scholars, technocrats, and senior officers of the Armed Forces at inaugural session of a technical seminar, organised by Pakistan Navy Engineering College PNS Juhar at Karachi, on Monday morning.

The Chief of the Naval Staff disclosed to the audience that the Pakistan Navy had recently completed the construction of Mini-Submarines and is currently engaged in the construction of the first A-Class 150 tons patrol craft. He added that the Navy as a matter of delibrate policy, has kept the shipbuilding expertise in Karachi Shippping and Engineering Works, alive by placing order for harbour oilers, cargo vessels, water and fuel barges and a 4000 ton floating dock, currently under construction. This underscored their enduring commitment to self reliance.

Admiral Sayeed M. Khan observed that more alarming was the global trend of collective denial of "hi-tech" as a potential and economic tool. The most important military question of coming years was whether the high tech device would remain confined to a few countries having monopoly over them. Future efforts to control, regulate and indeed deny legitimate access to related technologies by imposing a set of solution like the 'MTCR' [Missile Technology Control Regime] warrants that the in-country industrial base must be strengthened as soon as possible.

The Chief of the Naval Staff added that the Armed Forces of Pakistan are going through a difficult period of re-adjustments as a consequence of the stoppage of American Aid and military sales.

He further stated that the constitution period from one "aid" "Foreign Military Sales addicted" defence establishments, to a more diversified and relatively self-reliant, one was not going to be easy.

The Chief of the Naval Staff reiterated that there is a resolve in the higher echelons of political and military leadership to see a marked decrease in our dependency syndrome.

The Chief of the Naval Staff further said that the greatest challenge faced by the Pakistan Navy was to [words indistinct] time defence capabilities.

To achieve this, extra-ordinary measures have been taken to seek divergence and to alienate resources to supply at the earliest opportunity. This has also emphasised the need to work towards a greater measure of self-reliance.

Earlier in his welcome address, Captain Nasim Burt, Commanding Officer PNS Juhar thanked the learned participants who presented their papers in the seminar. He expressed his gratitude to Chief of the Naval Staff for gracing the occasion with his presence.

The seminar was attended by eminent scholars, scientists, senior serving and [word indistinct] officers of the Armed Froces.

Sri Lanka

LTTE Official Killed by Security Forces in Batticaloa

BK2606113293 Colombo Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation International Service in English 1045 GMT 26 Jun 93

[Text] A senior LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] terrorist sub-group leader, Krifti, was shot dead by the security forces at Vaunathivu in the Batticaloa District. Security forces told LANKAPUVATH that Krifti who was an LTTE organizer was killed when ambushed by government troops.

Meanwhile, in a separate incident the security forces recovered a car, documents, and other items belonging to the LTTE from a hideout in Thikkodai in Batticaloa. A Nissan Sunny car, LTTE publications, a photograph album, terrorist flags, and a bag of medicines were among the items recovered by the soldiers during the cordon and search operation in the hideout.

At (Kabillaveli) in Batticaloa North, a group of terrorists who came under fire from soldiers had abandoned several grenades. It is believed that some of the terrorists may have been wounded in the firing. In another incident at (Kabillaveli) soldiers shot dead a terrorist and recovered a shotgun.

'Major' LTTE Base Destroyed

BK2506122993 Colombo Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation International Service in English 1045 GMT 25 Jun 93

[Text] Special Task Force [STF] commandos overran and later destroyed a major LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] base at (Thori Kalmunai) on the border of the Batticaloa and Amparai districts. The Joint Operations Command told LANKAPUVATH that two terrorists who were in the base at the time of the STF raid were presumed dead after they jumped into a nearby lagoon having sustained gunshot injuries. The base also provided vital communication facility to the Tigers who had rigged up an antenna on top of a tree and built a platform from which they could operate their radios to contact camps in Batticaloa or Amparai.